



22 \$2.25 US
\$3.25 CAN
SEP 98

STARMAN



ROBINSON
HARRIS
DAVIS
CRAWBARGER

SAND
AND
STARS

PART THREE OF FOUR



HARRIS 98



YES, WARREN, IT'S ME, WESLEY.



JUST A FOLLOW-UP CALL TO OUR CHAT OF YESTERDAY. HOW ARE THINGS?

FINE, WES! FINE



HOW GOES THE AIRSHIP TEST?

GREAT. I FEEL CONFIDENT THAT I'LL NOW A FEW SKEPTICS WHEN THEY SEE WHAT MY GIRL CAN DO.

GRAND. UH...

...I TOLD HIM NOT TO BOTHER YOU, BUT...I THINK MY YOUNG FRIEND, THE SUPERHERO I MENTIONED...MAY HAVE TRIED TO CONTACT YOU. HAS HE?



I'VE NOT HEARD FROM HIM. NO. WHAT DID YOU SAY HIS NAME WAS?

STARMAN.

I THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD.



I THINK THAT WAS A DIFFERENT ONE.

OH. WELL, NOTHING RESEMBLING A STAR HERO HAS COME ANYWHERE NEAR MY COMPOUND.



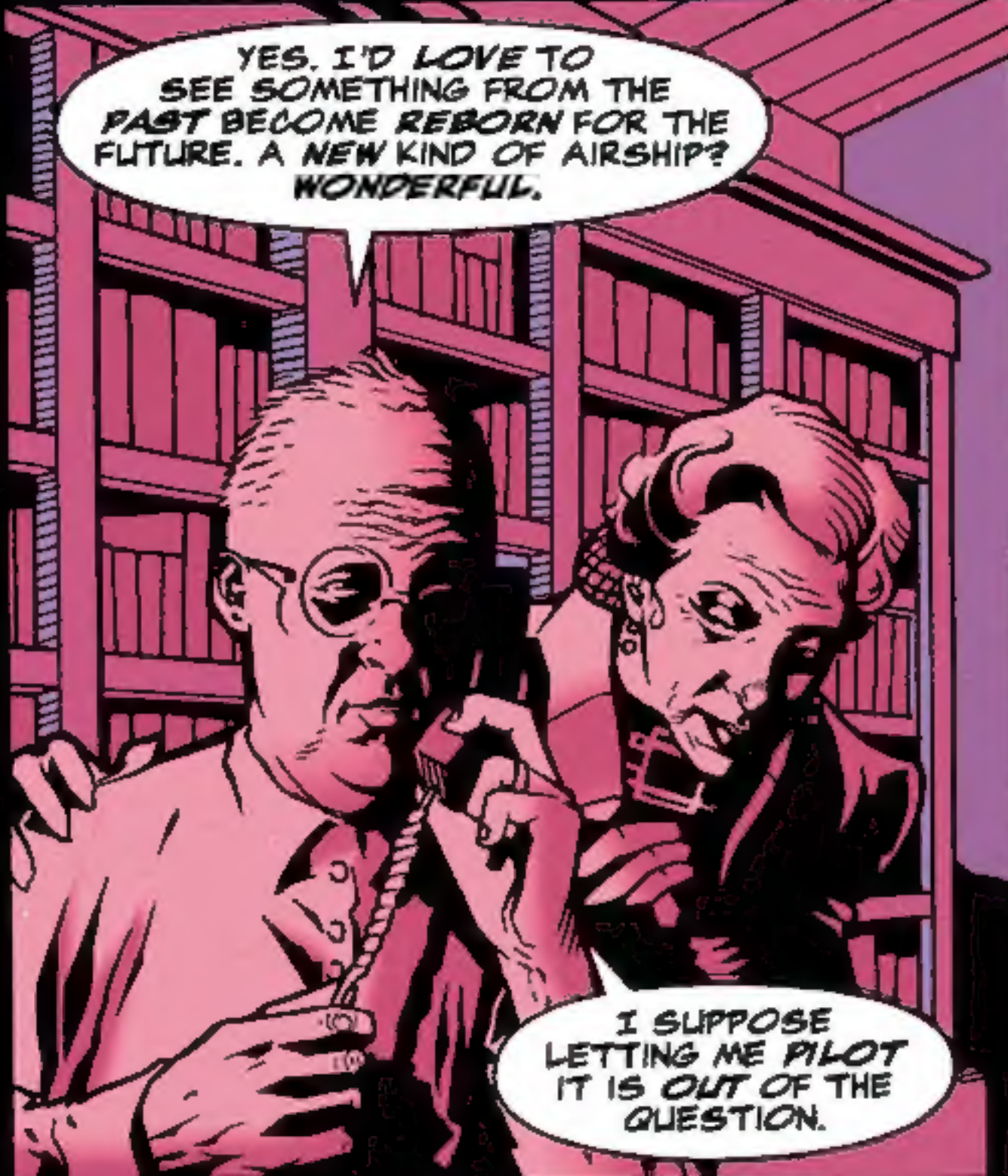
SO
THE TEST IS
TOMORROW?

TODAY.
FOUR HOURS. IN FACT,
I REALLY **SHOULDN'T** BE
TALKING TO YOU, SO
MUCH TO DO.



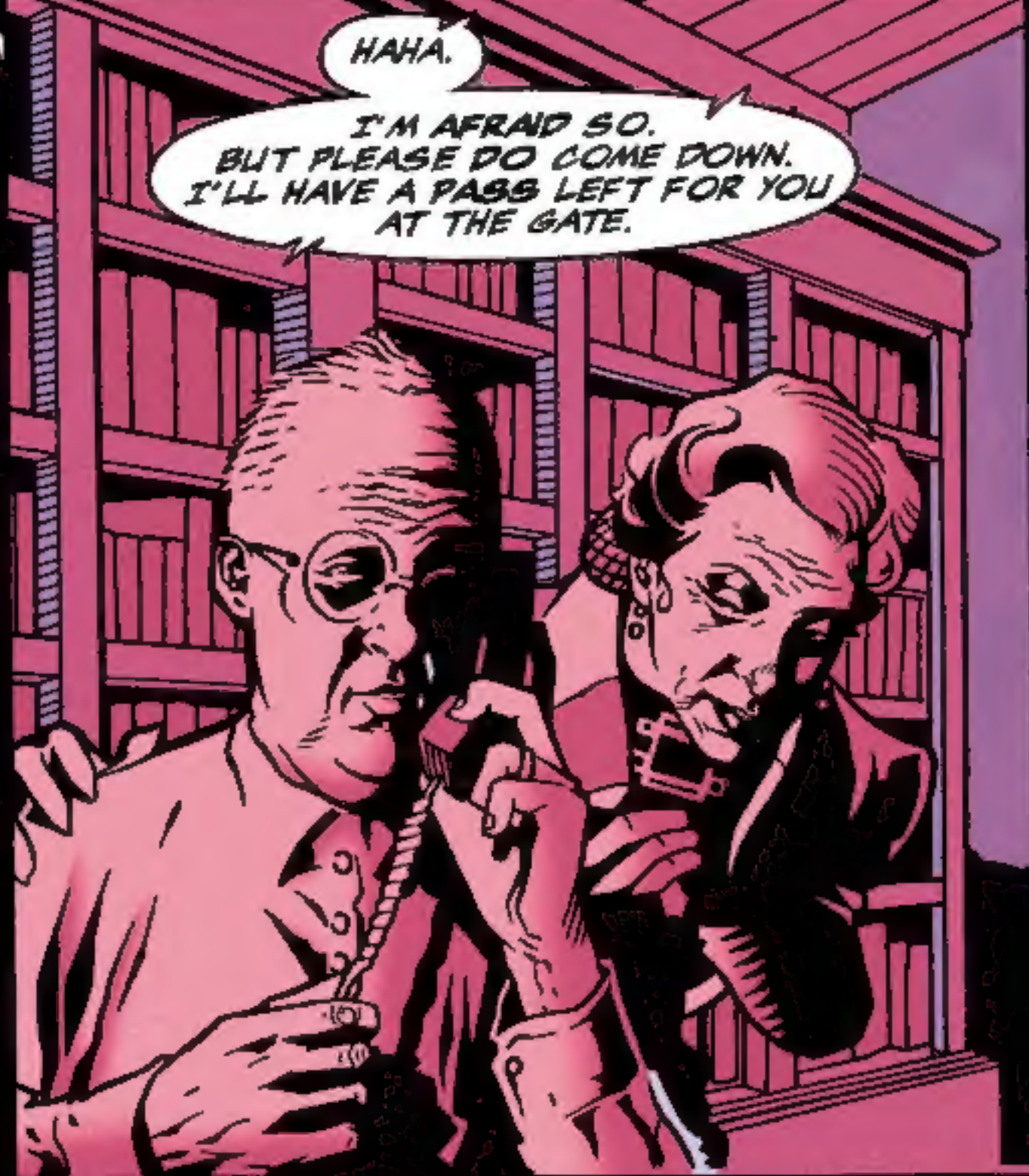
I SUPPOSE
AN OLD MAN COULDN'T
GET TO SEE THE TEST,
COULD HE?

YOU?



YES. I'D LOVE TO
SEE SOMETHING FROM THE
PAST BECOME REBORN FOR THE
FUTURE. A NEW KIND OF AIRSHIP?
WONDERFUL.

I SUPPOSE
LETTING ME PILOT
IT IS OUT OF THE
QUESTION.



HAHA.

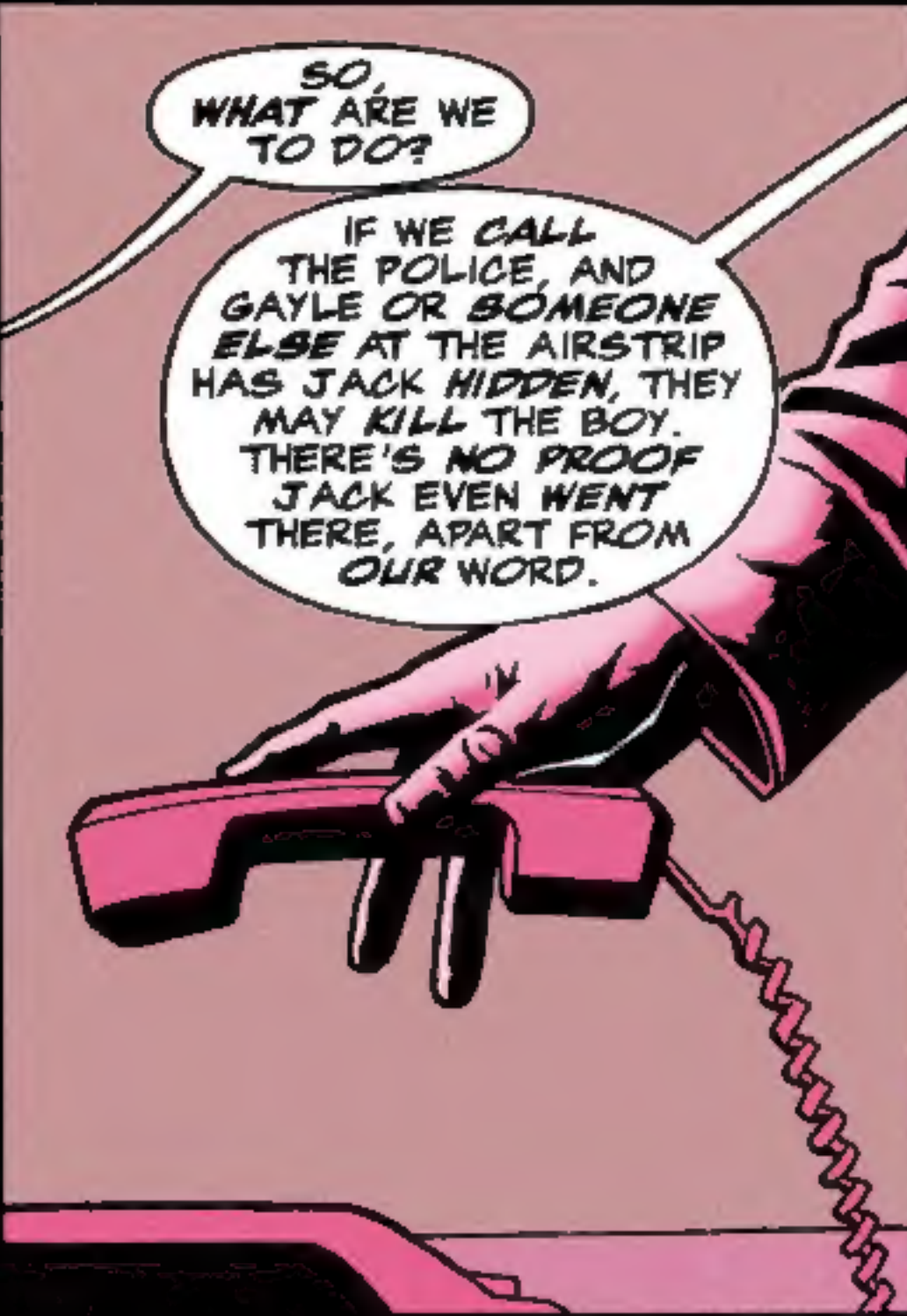
I'M AFRAID SO.
BUT PLEASE DO COME DOWN.
I'LL HAVE A PASS LEFT FOR YOU
AT THE GATE.



AND
ONE FOR DIAN,
TOO?

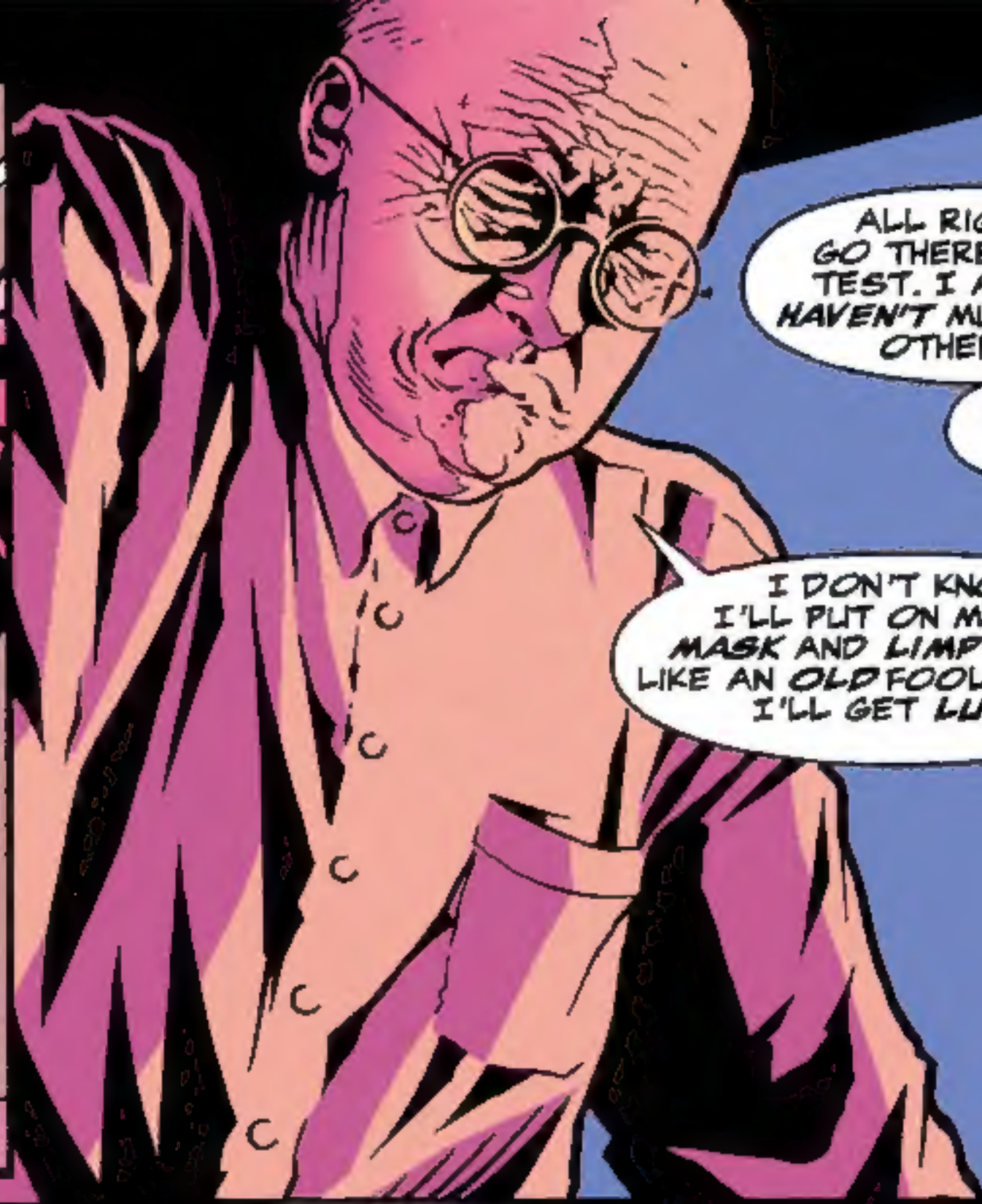
OF
COURSE.





SO,
WHAT ARE WE
TO DO?


IF WE CALL
THE POLICE, AND
GAYLE OR SOMEONE
ELSE AT THE AIRSTRIP
HAS JACK HIDDEN, THEY
MAY KILL THE BOY.
THERE'S NO PROOF
JACK EVEN WENT
THERE, APART FROM
OUR WORD.



ALL RIGHT, WE
GO THERE FOR THE
TEST. I AGREE. WE
HAVEN'T MUCH CHOICE
OTHERWISE.

BUT WHAT
THEN?

I DON'T KNOW.
I'LL PUT ON MY GAS
MASK AND LIMP AROUND
LIKE AN OLD FOOL. PERHAPS
I'LL GET LUCKY.




IS THIS LIKE OLD
TIMES? OR ARE WE ENTERING
SOMETHING WE NO LONGER
UNDERSTAND? I KNOW THE
RULES HAVE CHANGED.



THERE ARE
NO RULES TO
BEGIN WITH.

JUST
YOU AND I
DOING OUR
BEST.

AND WATCHING
OUT FOR EACH
OTHER.



I
LOVE YOU,
DIAN.

WESLEY...

sand and stars PART THREE

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ARCHIE GOODWIN - editor

JACK KNIGHT created by JAMES ROBINSON & TONY HARRIS



...YOU MADE
IT. I'M SO
GLAD.

IT WAS
AN INVITATION I
COULDN'T REFUSE,
WARREN.

YOU REMEMBER
DIAN, OF COURSE.

YES, WONDERFUL
TO SEE YOU AGAIN,
MS. BELMONT.



WHEN
DOES THE FLIGHT
START?

ONE
HOUR. THIS IS
MY PILOT...



...DANIEL
CROFT.

HELLO.



GOOD
LUCK TODAY,
MR. CROFT.

THANK
YOU. I HOPE MY
PERFORMANCE TODAY
IS AN EYE-OPENER.

SO
WHAT DO WE
DO?



WAIT, I'M
SORRY TO
SAY.

THERE
IS A ROOM
ON THE GROUND
FLOOR OF THE
BUILDING WHERE
REFRESHMENTS
ARE BEING
SERVED.

OH, DON'T
WORRY ABOUT
WESLEY AND ME,
WARREN...



"I'M SURE WE CAN
FIND WAYS TO
AMUSE OURSELVES."

**RESTRICTED
AREA**




Voices.

WARREN
GAYLE



SO,
THE PLANE
TO FLORIDA IS
FUELED AND
WAITING FOR
US.



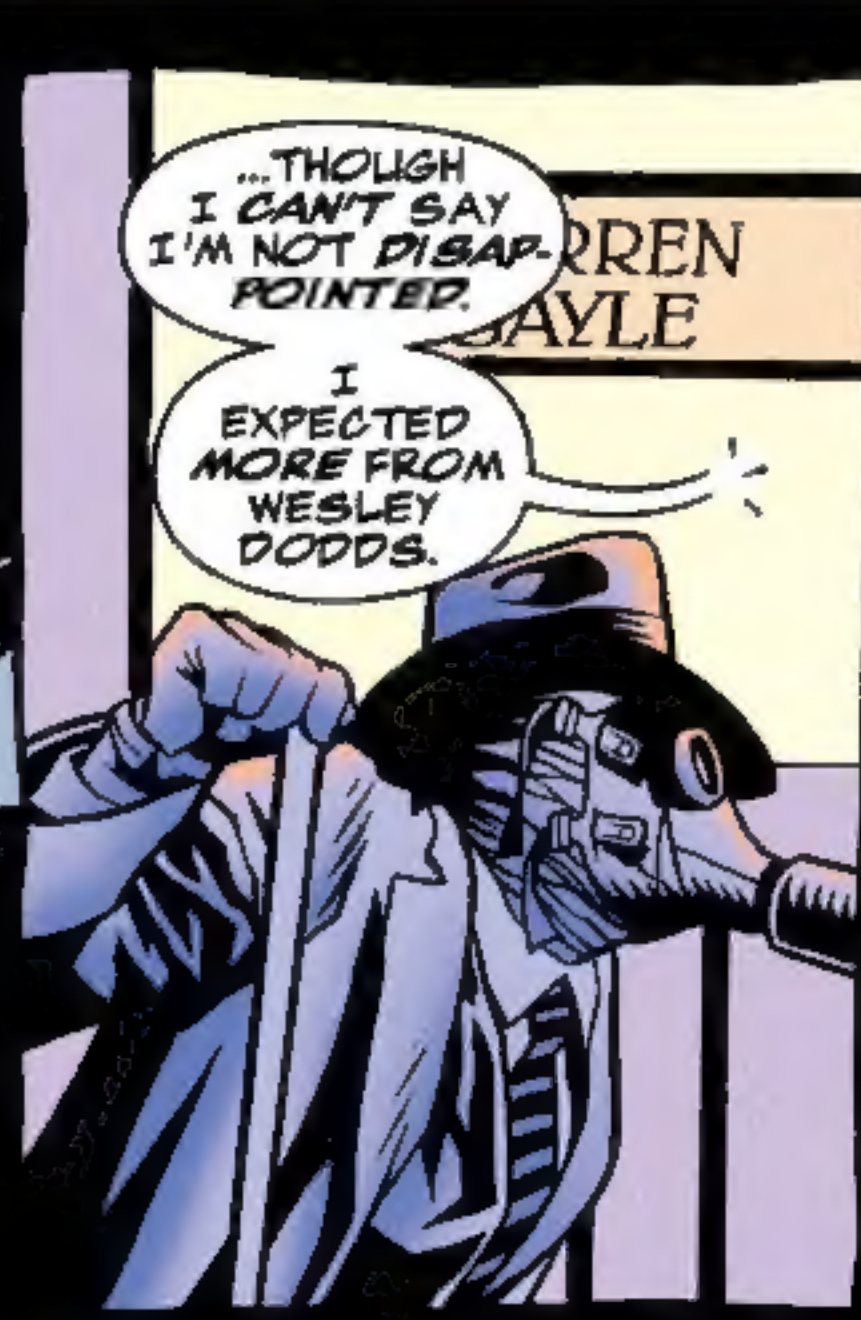
GOOD,
I'M GLAD TO
HEAR IT.

THIS
WENT **SMOOTHER**
THAN EVEN I
THOUGHT...

HE'S AN
OLD MAN. WHAT
KIND OF FIGHT
WOULD HE HAVE
GIVEN YOU?


I DON'T
KNOW. I'M AN
OLD MAN TOO.
I STILL
ORCHESTRATED
ALL THIS.

HE'S HERE ANYWAY. HE
INVITED HIMSELF, SO I
AGREED TO HIS
COMING. LET HIM SEE
THE AIRSHIP GO DOWN.
HE'LL KNOW SOME-
THING IS WRONG,
BECAUSE HIS YOUNG
FRIEND WENT MISSING.
BUT HE'LL NEVER KNOW
IT WAS ME. HE'LL NEVER
KNOW ALL THE
ANSWERS. HE'LL DIE
NEVER KNOWING.



...THOUGH
I CAN'T SAY
I'M NOT DISAP-
POINTED.


I
EXPECTED
MORE FROM
WESLEY
DODDS.




I SUPPOSE
I CAN GET SOME
SATISFACTION OUT
OF THAT.

ANYWAY,
WE STILL HAVE
THINGS TO
DO.

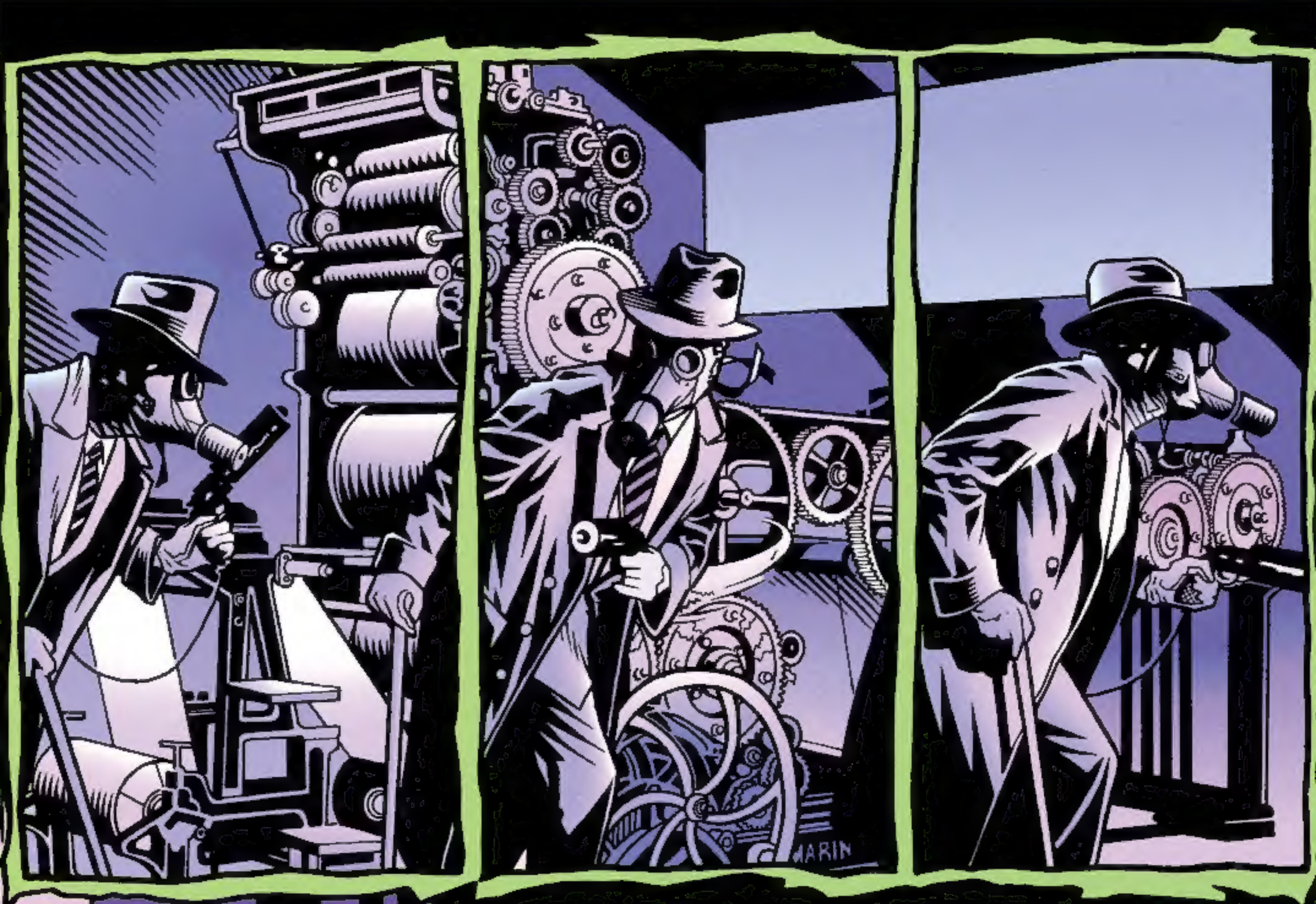
YEAH...

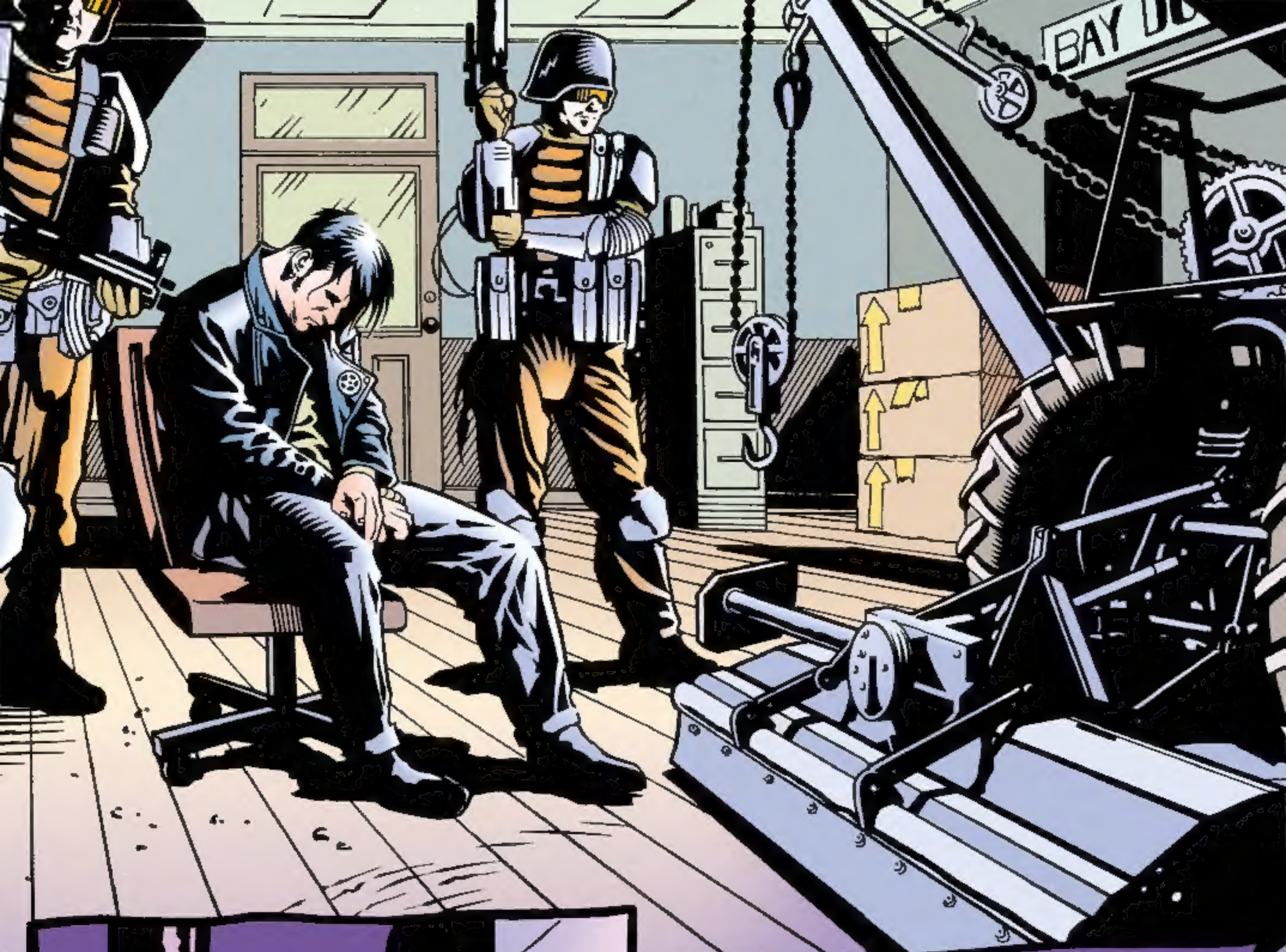


...I
HAVE PRESS
AND PUBLIC TO
MAKE NICE WITH.
"HOW HAPPY I AM."
"HOW OPTIMISTIC
I AM." "HOW MUCH
I WISH MY POOR
DEAD PARTNER
JOHN COULD BE
HERE TO WITNESS
OUR GLORIOUS
SUCCESS."



AND I HAVE AN
AIRSHIP TO BRING
DOWN ON THEIR
HEADS.





All right, now I know who's behind this. I know where Jack is. And I know what I should do next.

My only question. Am I able?

=> sigh =<

I'm old.



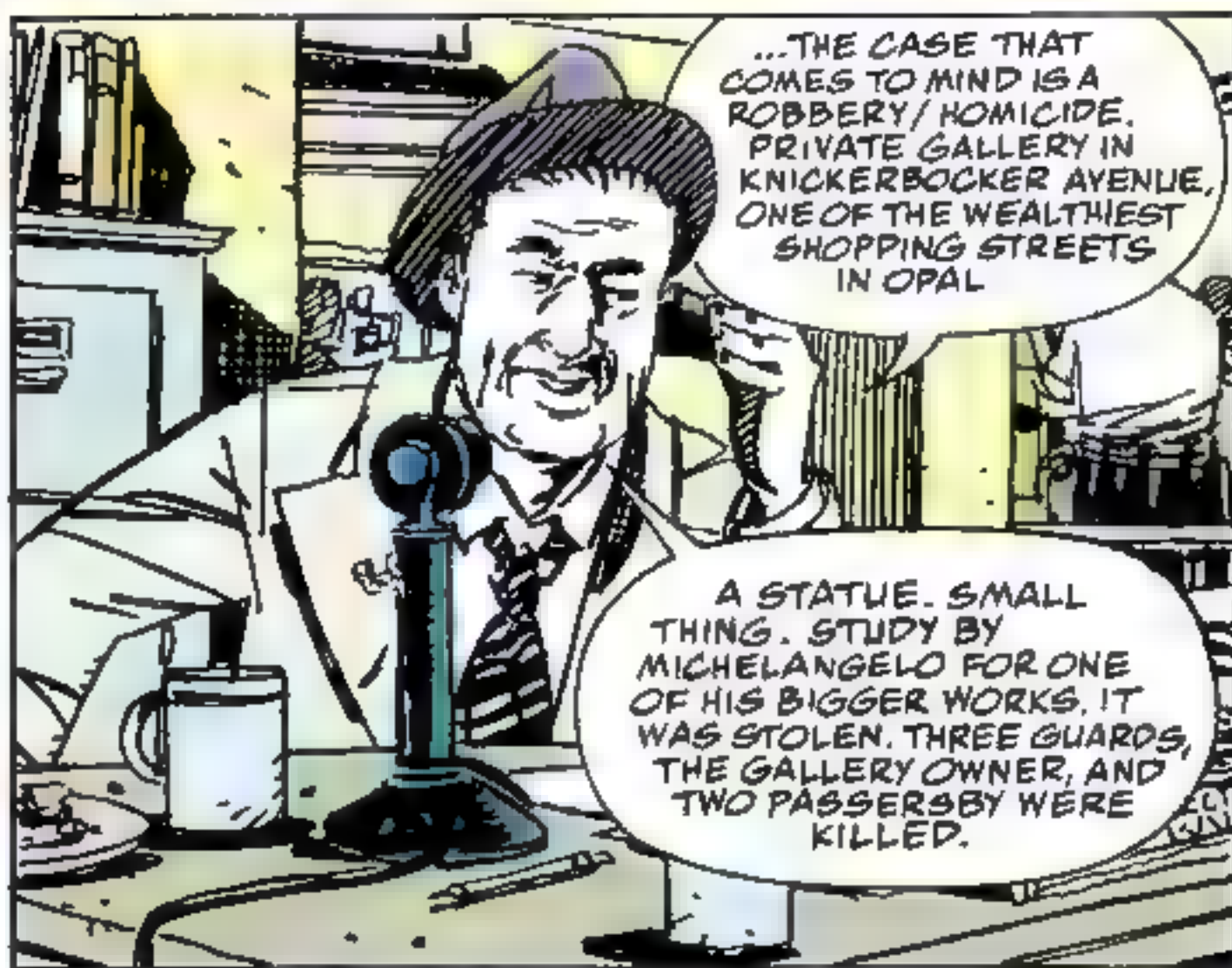
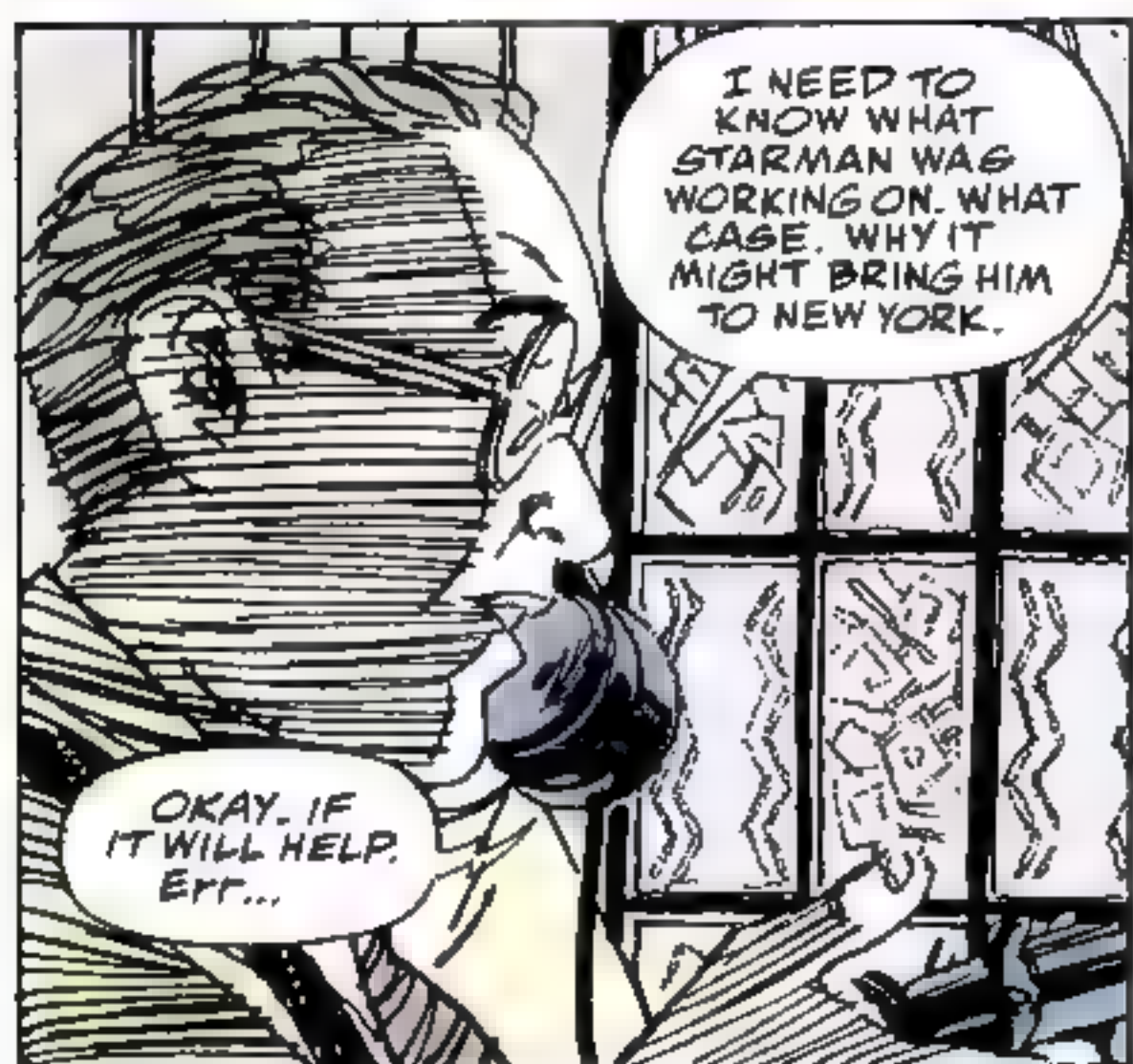
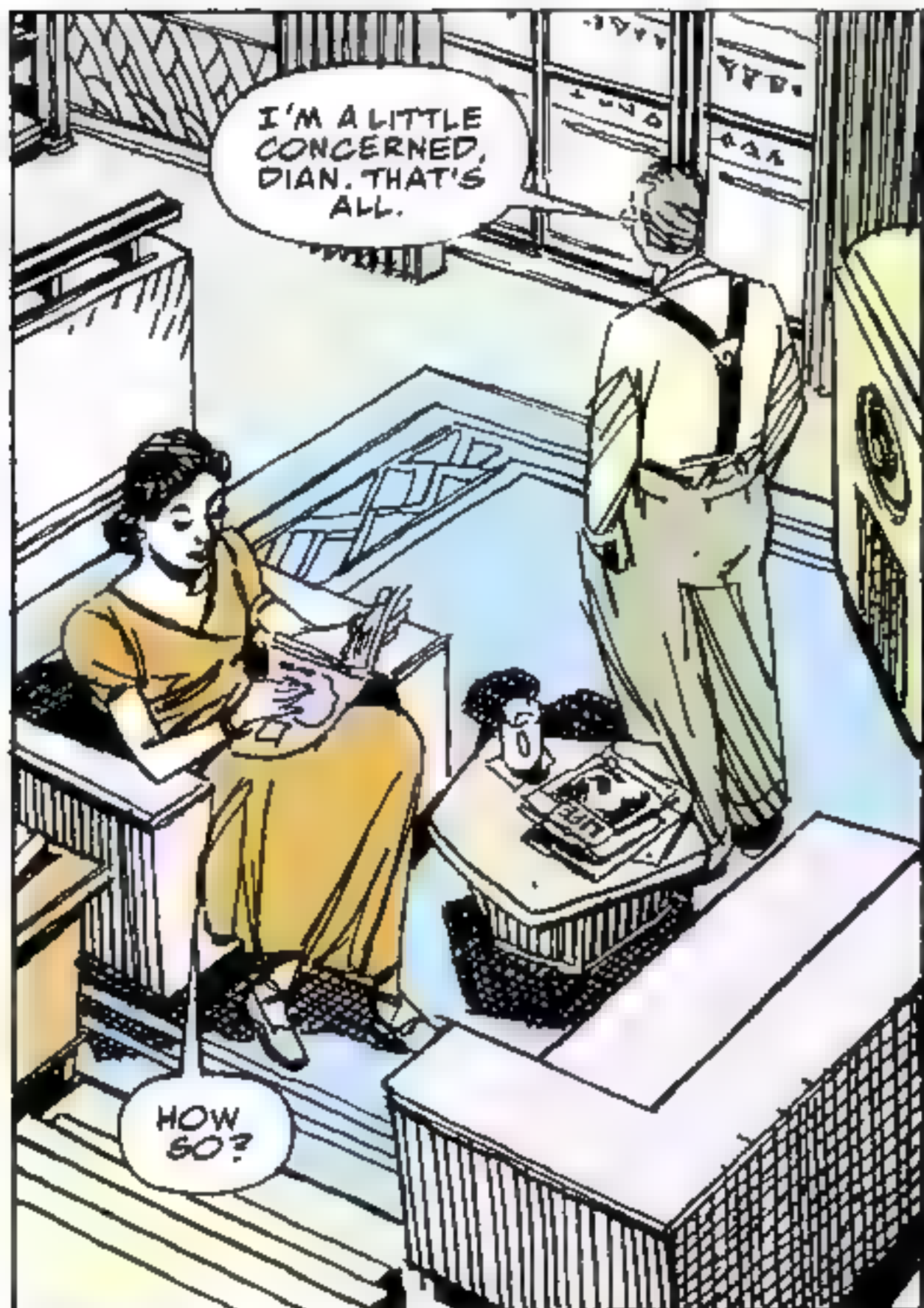
Am I afraid? Is that it? Callow time has taken of me yearly. No glorious death, but rather a sad wasting.

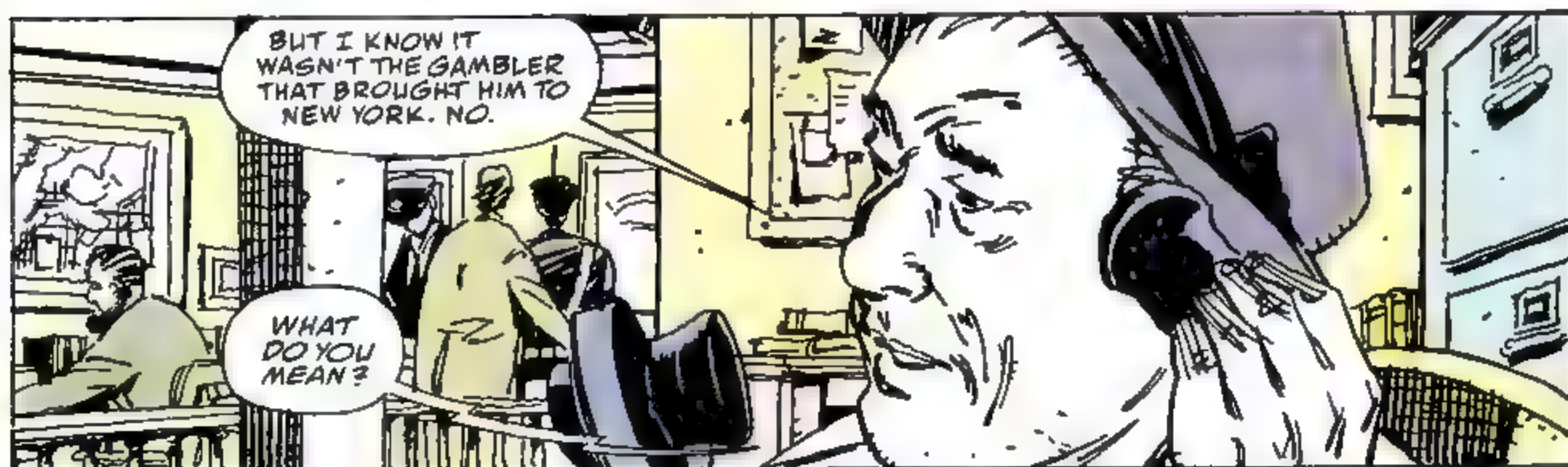
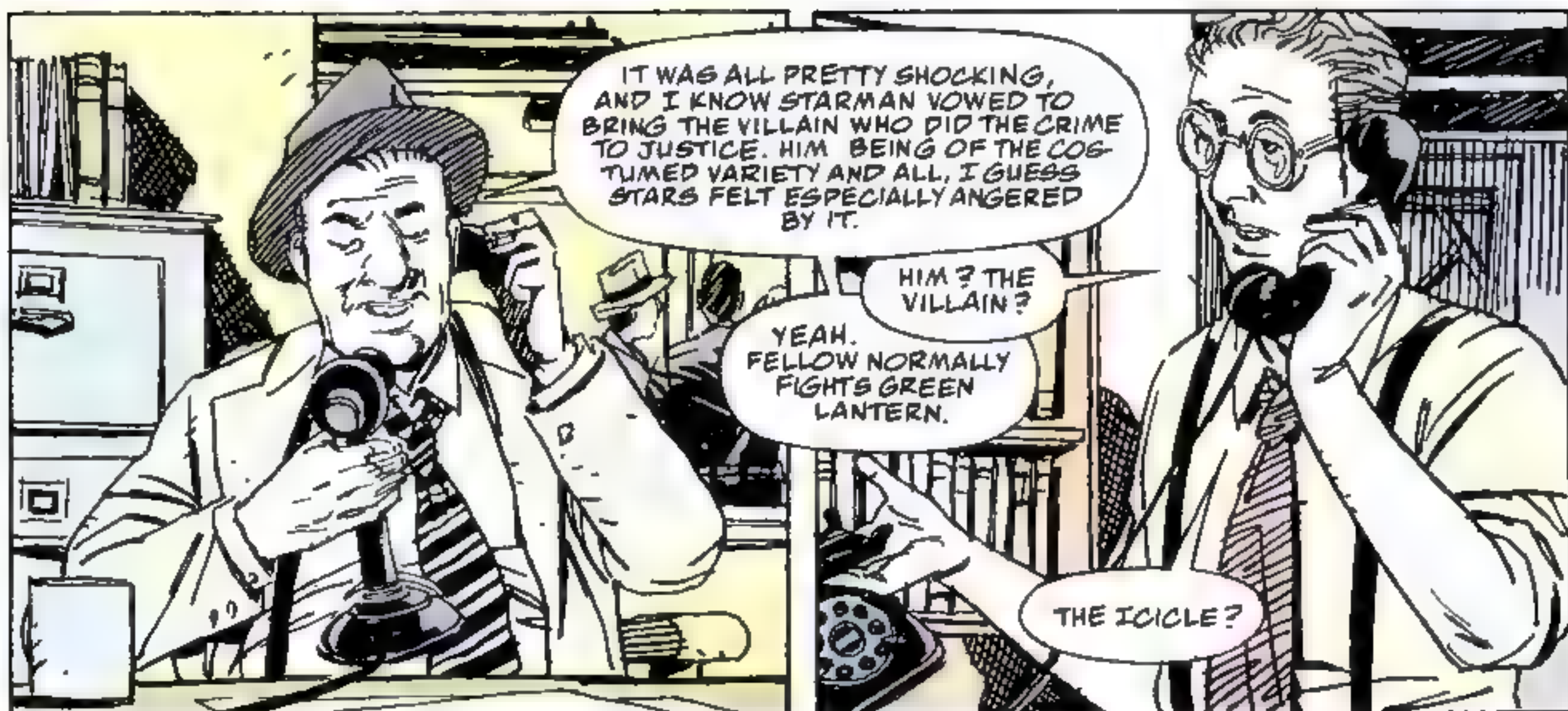
Has my courage gone, too?

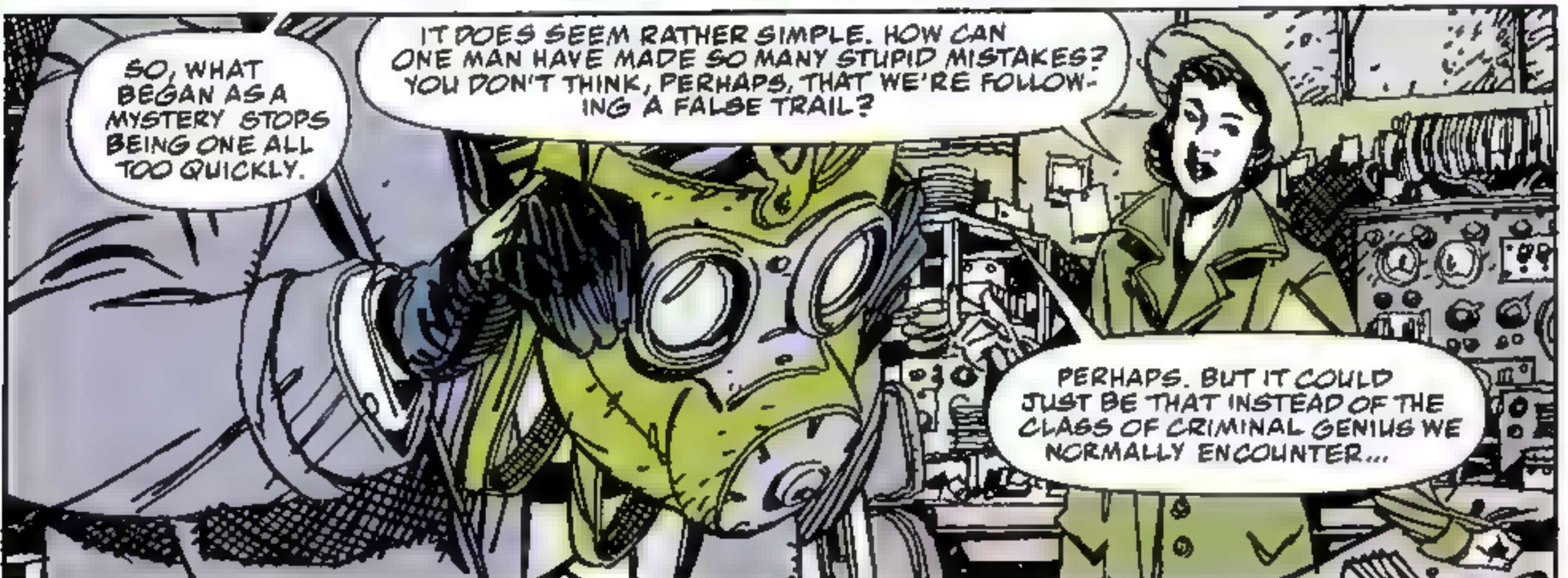
I look at armored weaponry--the science of tomorrow--and I ask again...

Am I able?











"...THIS
MAN IS
A FOOL..."

ALBERT
MELLOW.

YOU ARE A
MURDERER.

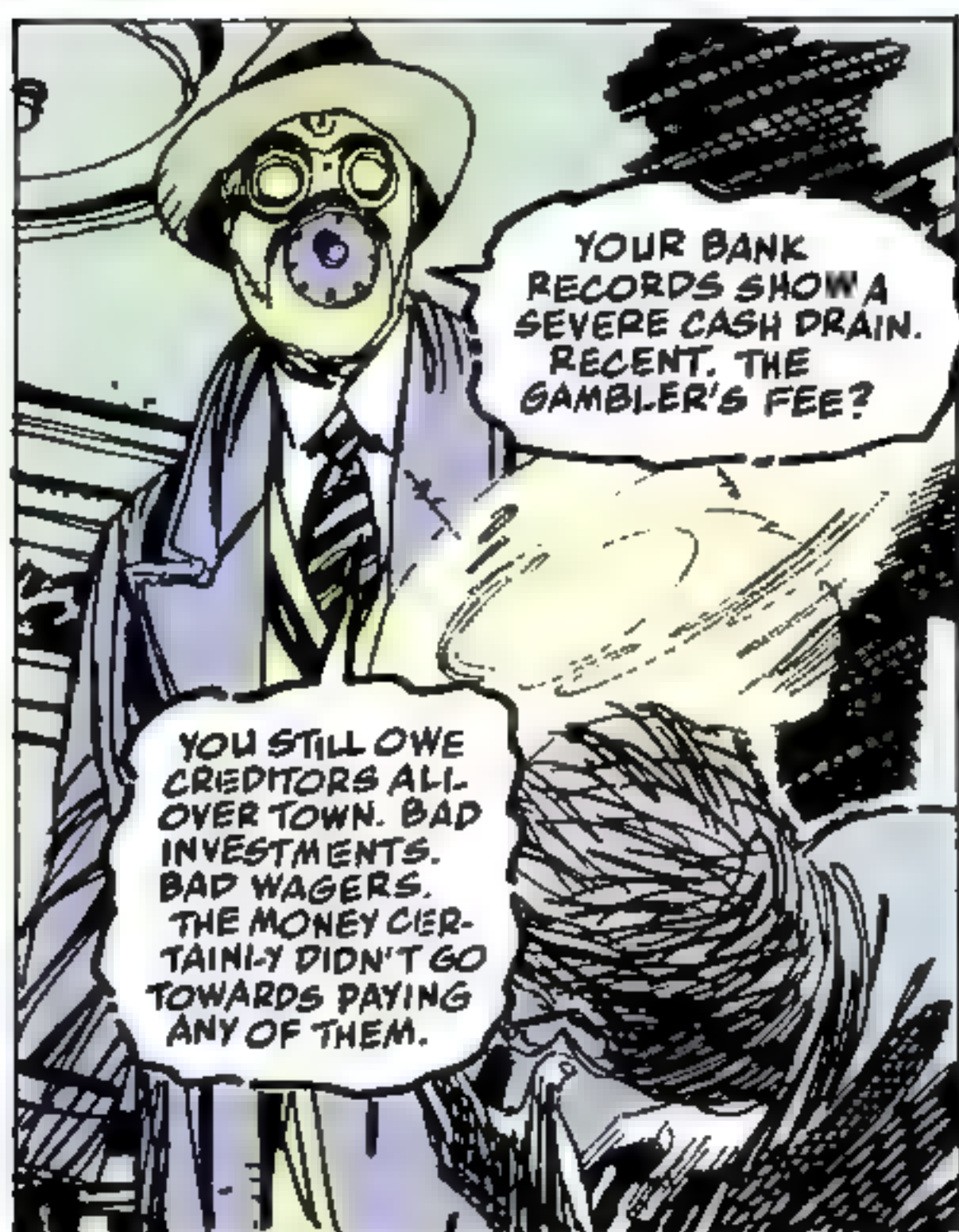
WHAT?
WHO THE
HELL...?

OH... I
KNOW WHO
YOU ARE.

YOU'RE THAT
GASMAN FELLOW FROM
THE JUSTICE SQUADRON.
WHAT... DO YOU WANT?

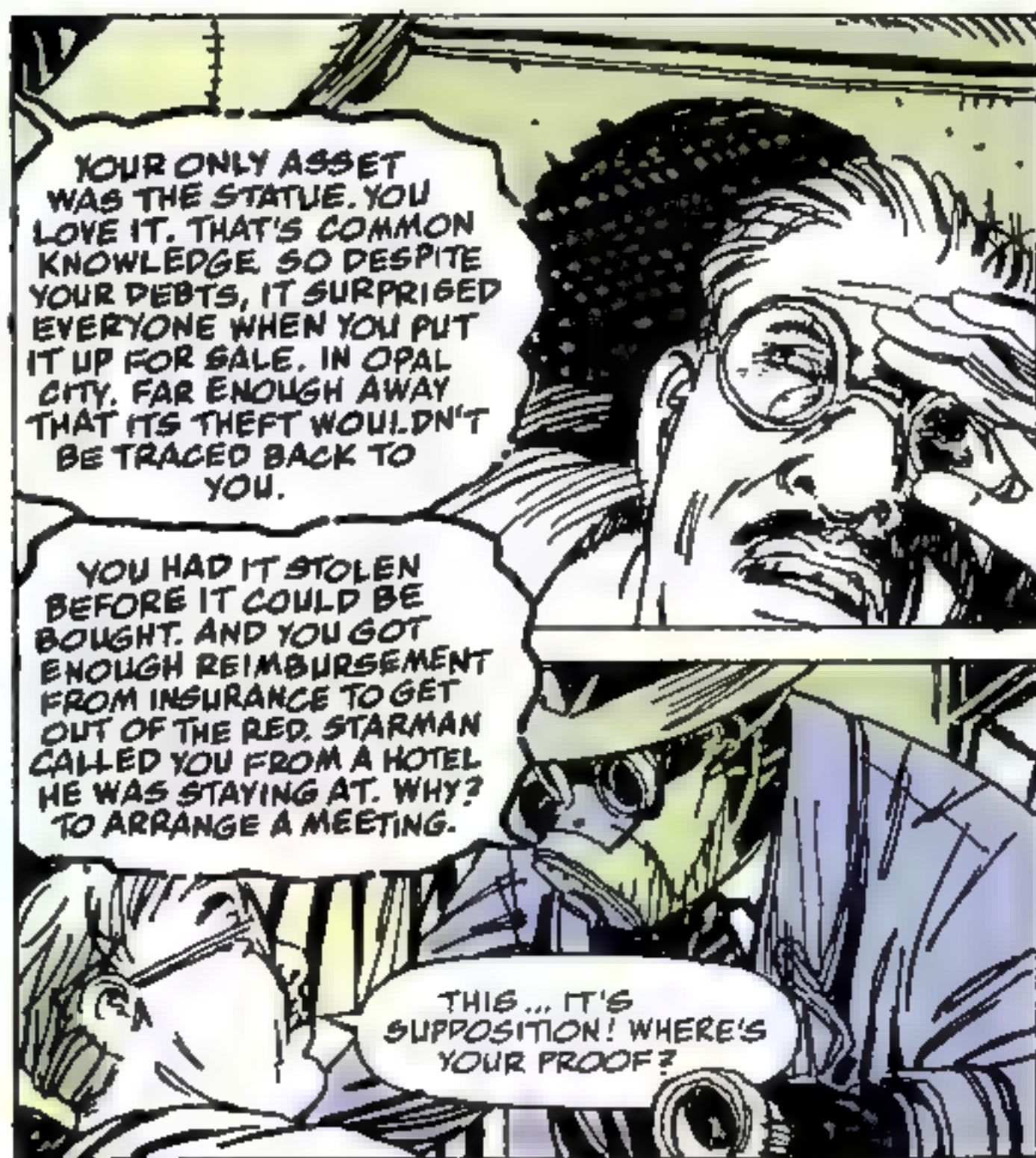
YOU
KNOW WHY
I'M HERE.

YOU OWN THE STATUE
THE GAMBLER STOLE. YOU
INSURED IT. YOU'VE ALREADY
COLLECTED ON THE CLAIM.



YOUR BANK
RECORDS SHOW A
SEVERE CASH DRAIN.
RECENT. THE
GAMBLER'S FEE?

YOU STILL OWE
CREDITORS ALL
OVER TOWN. BAD
INVESTMENTS.
BAD WAGERS.
THE MONEY CER-
TAINLY DIDN'T GO
TOWARDS PAYING
ANY OF THEM.



YOUR ONLY ASSET
WAS THE STATUE. YOU
LOVE IT. THAT'S COMMON
KNOWLEDGE. SO DESPITE
YOUR DEBTS, IT SURPRISED
EVERYONE WHEN YOU PUT
IT UP FOR SALE. IN OPAL
CITY. FAR ENOUGH AWAY
THAT ITS THEFT WOULDN'T
BE TRACED BACK TO
YOU.

YOU HAD IT STOLEN
BEFORE IT COULD BE
BOUGHT. AND YOU GOT
ENOUGH REIMBURSEMENT
FROM INSURANCE TO GET
OUT OF THE RED. STARMAN
CALLED YOU FROM A HOTEL
HE WAS STAYING AT. WHY?
TO ARRANGE A MEETING.

THIS... IT'S
SUPPOSITION! WHERE'S
YOUR PROOF?



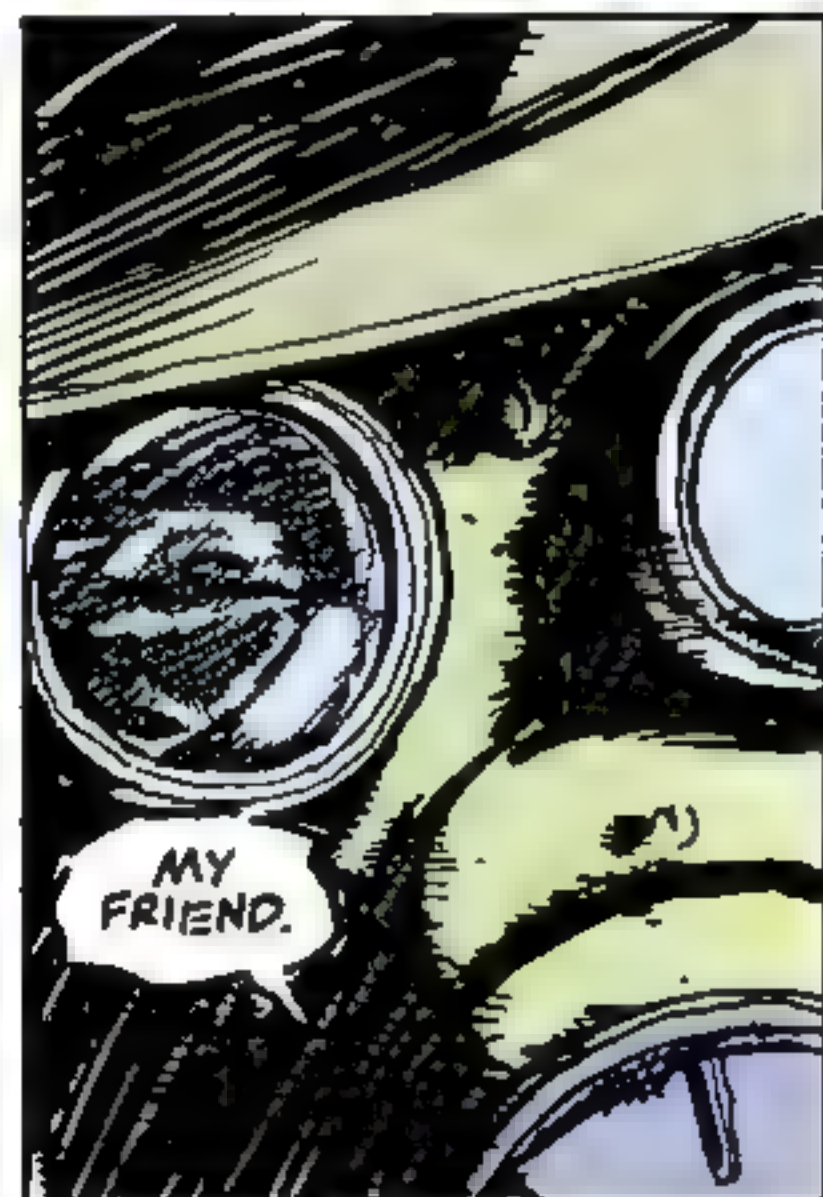
YOU IDIOT.
YOU LEFT A
TRAIL OF MONEY
AND MOTIVE
THAT AS GOOD
AS HAD YOU
PULLING THE
TRIGGER ON
THOSE INNOCENTS
THE GAMBLER'S
MEN KILLED IN
THE ROBBERY.

I... I DIDN'T
KNOW ANYONE WAS
GOING TO GET HURT.
BELIEVE ME! I WAS
AS SHOCKED AS
ANYONE!

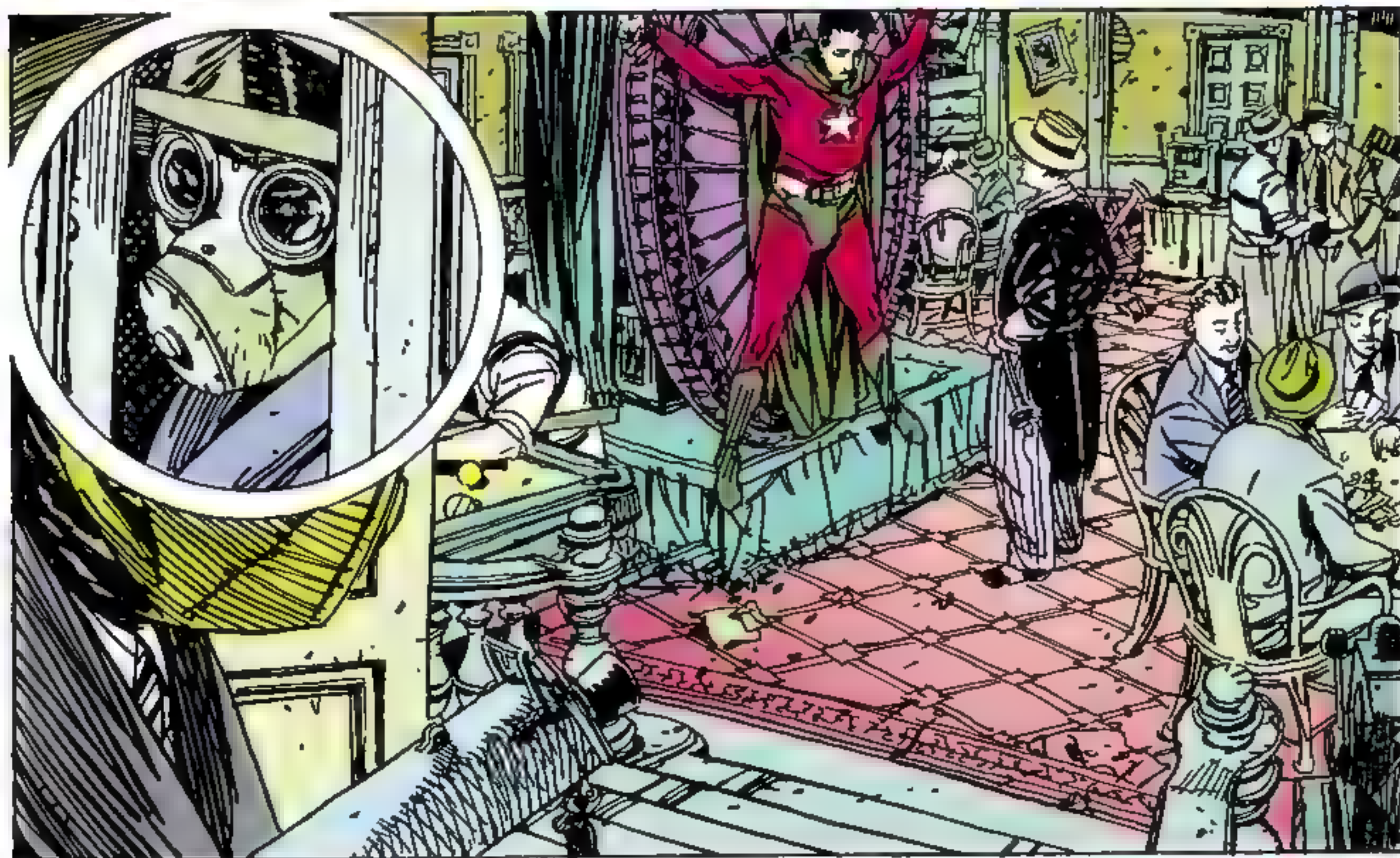
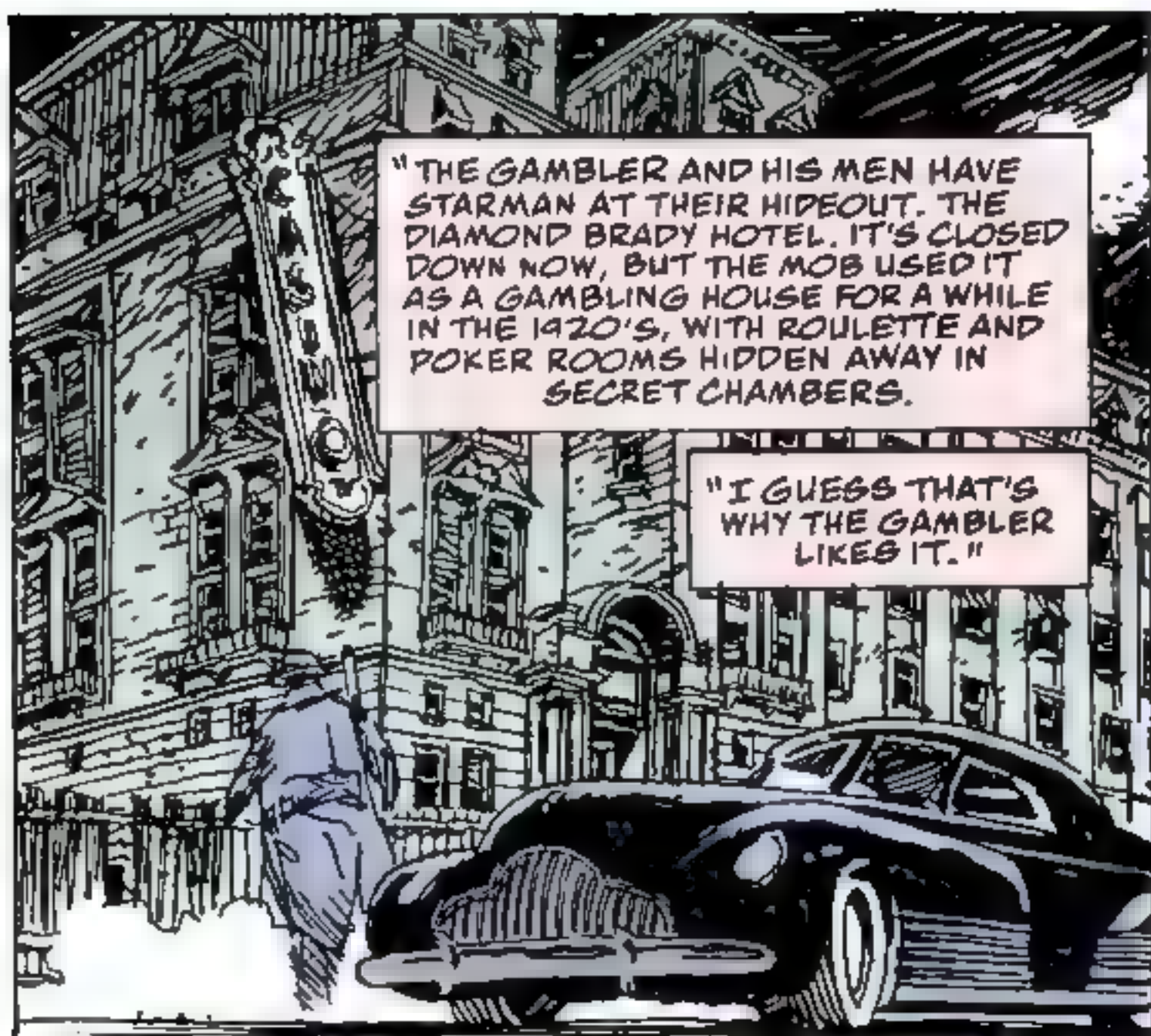


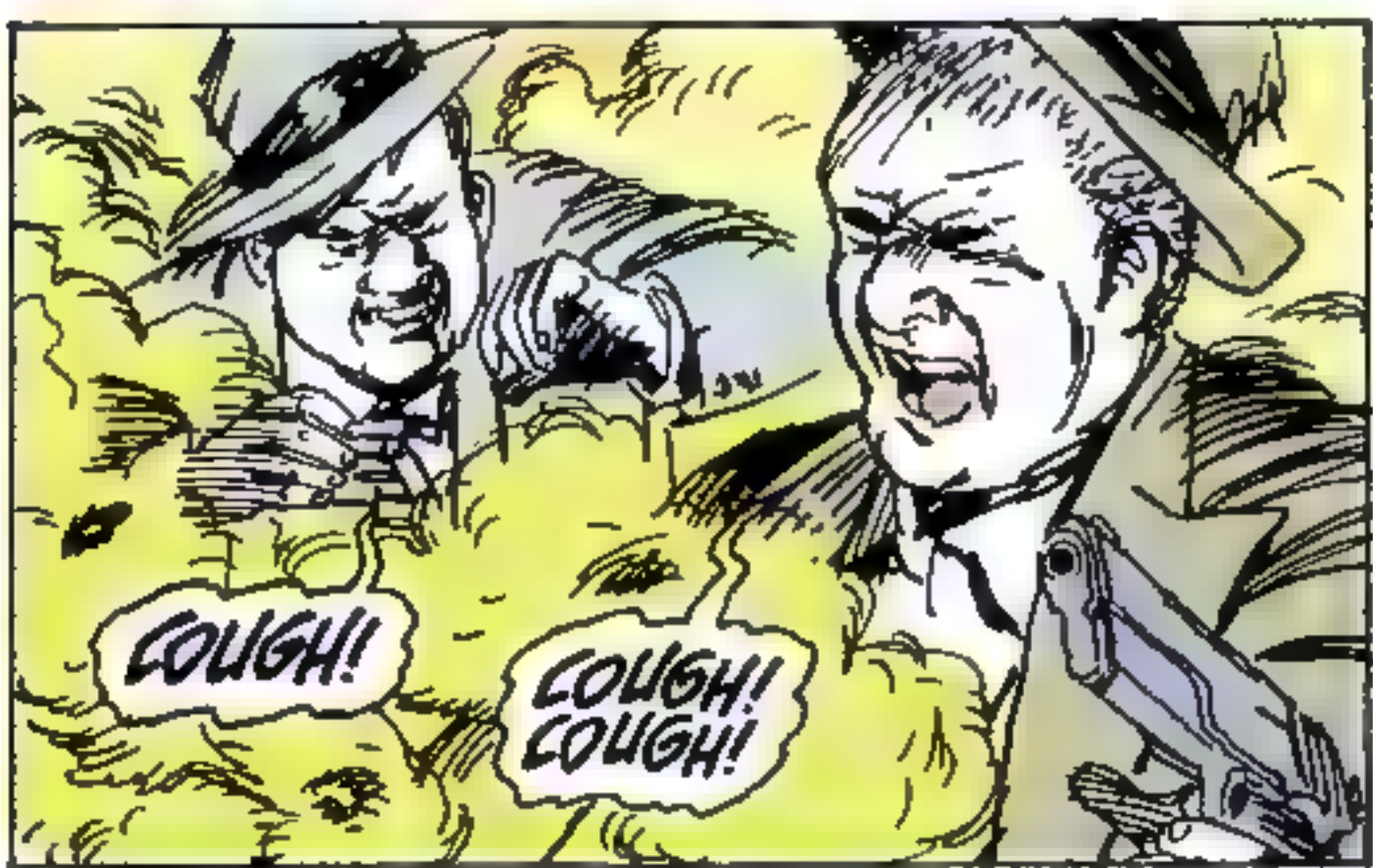
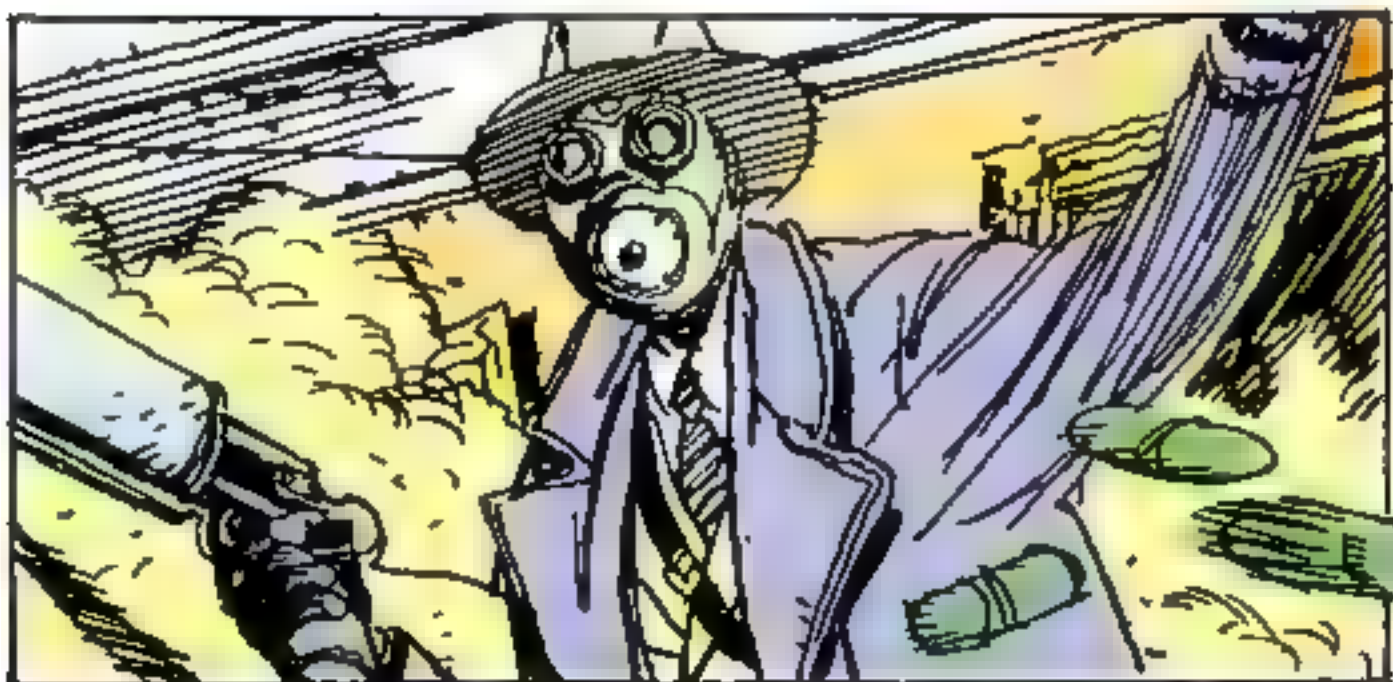
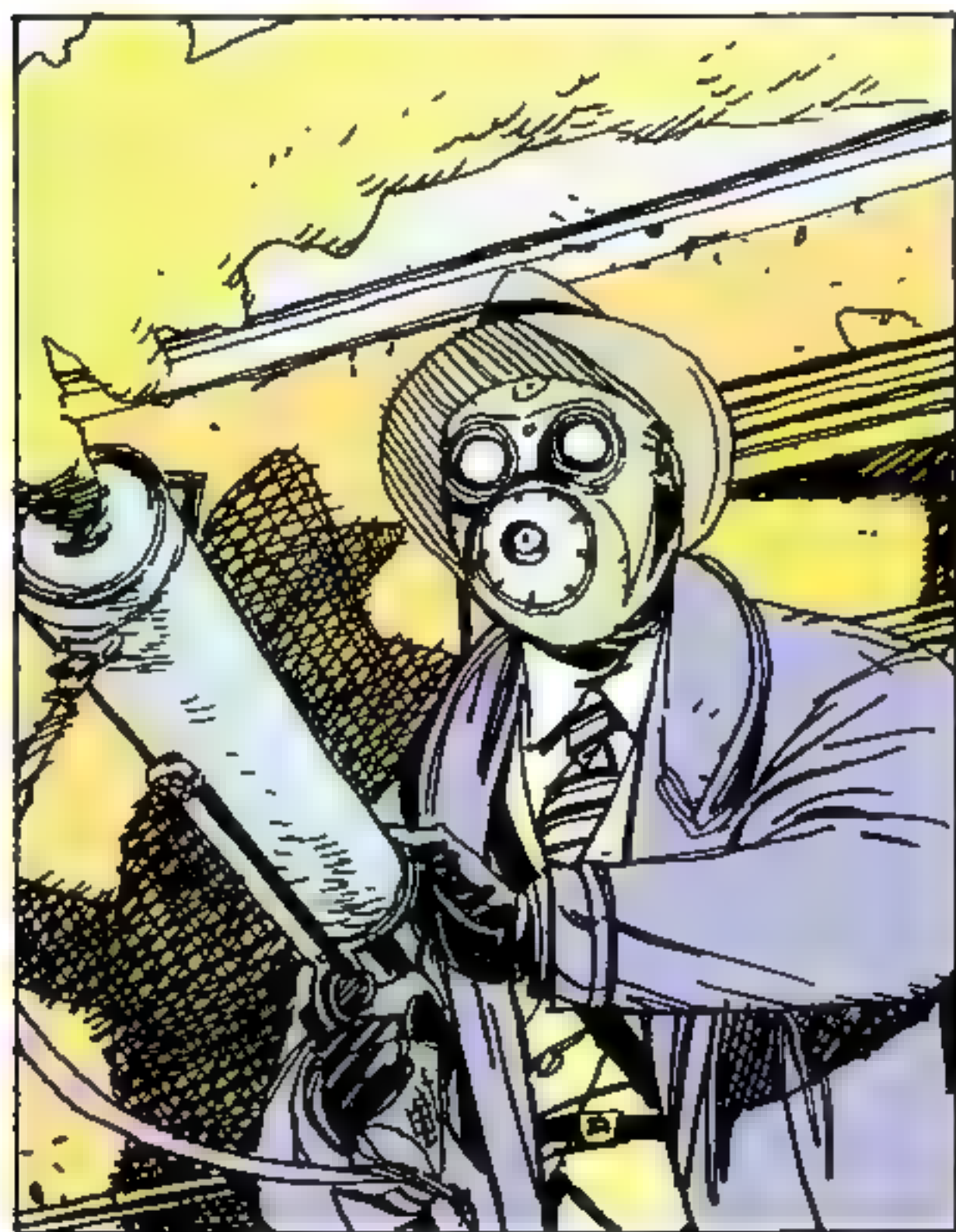
PROVE IT. I CAN TALK
TO THE AUTHORITIES. PER-
HAPS SAVE YOU FROM THE
GAS CHAMBER.

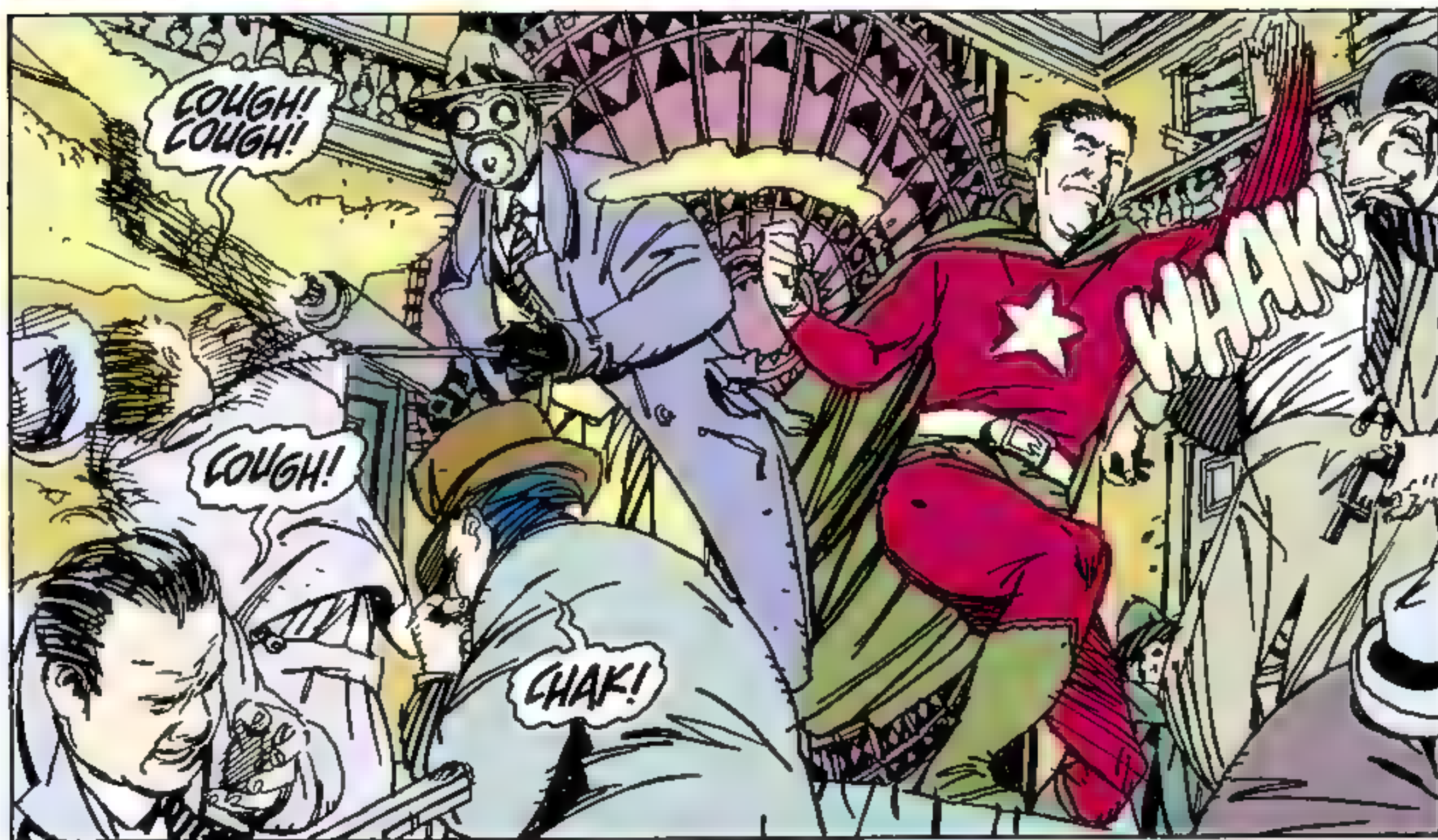
WHAT DO
YOU WANT?

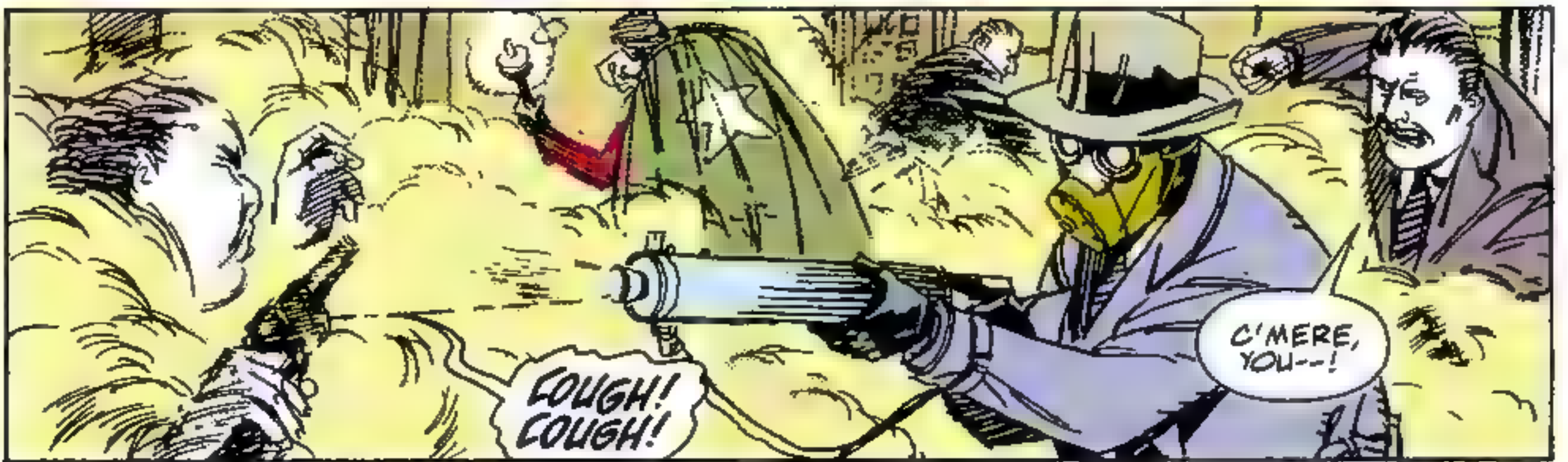
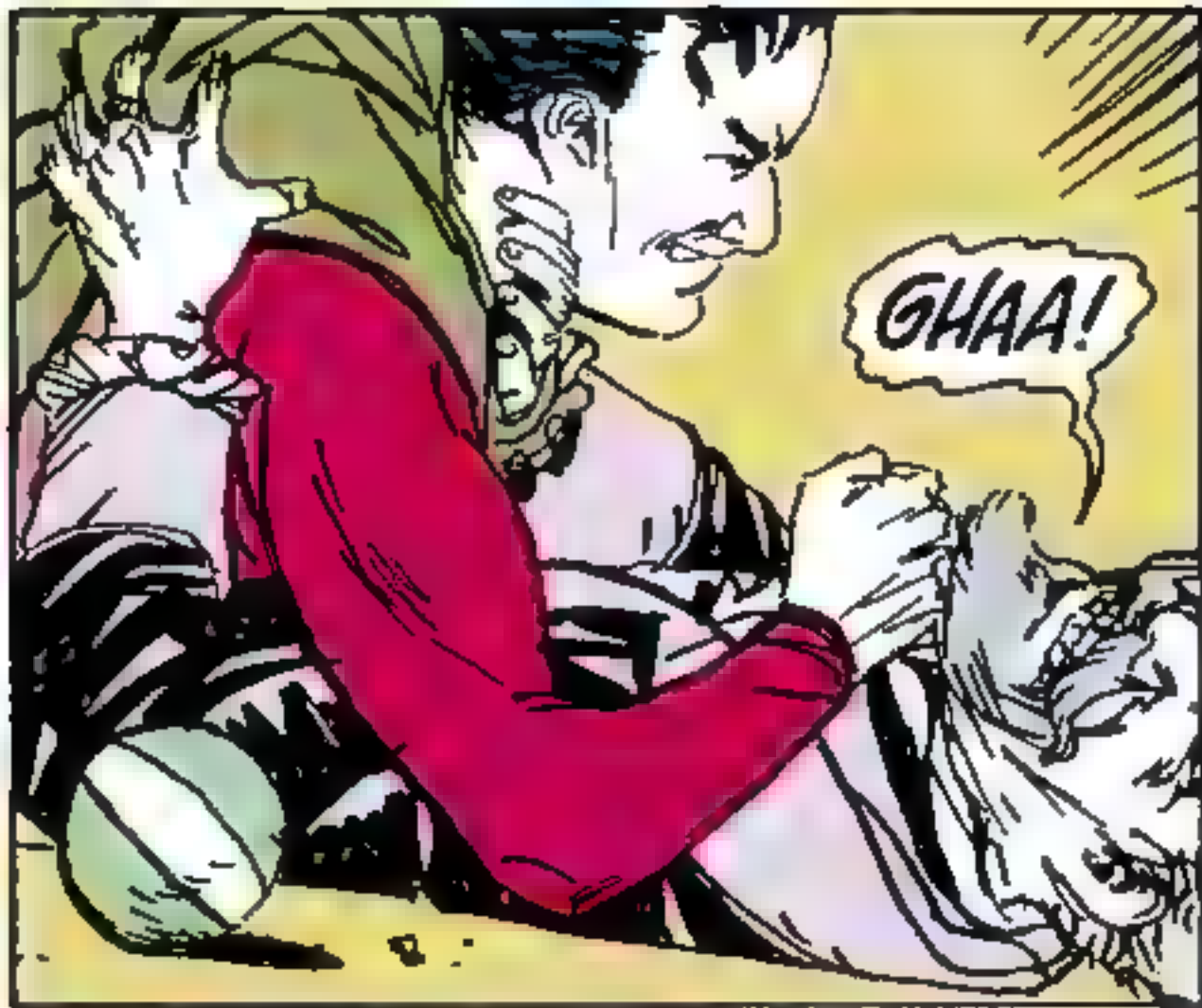


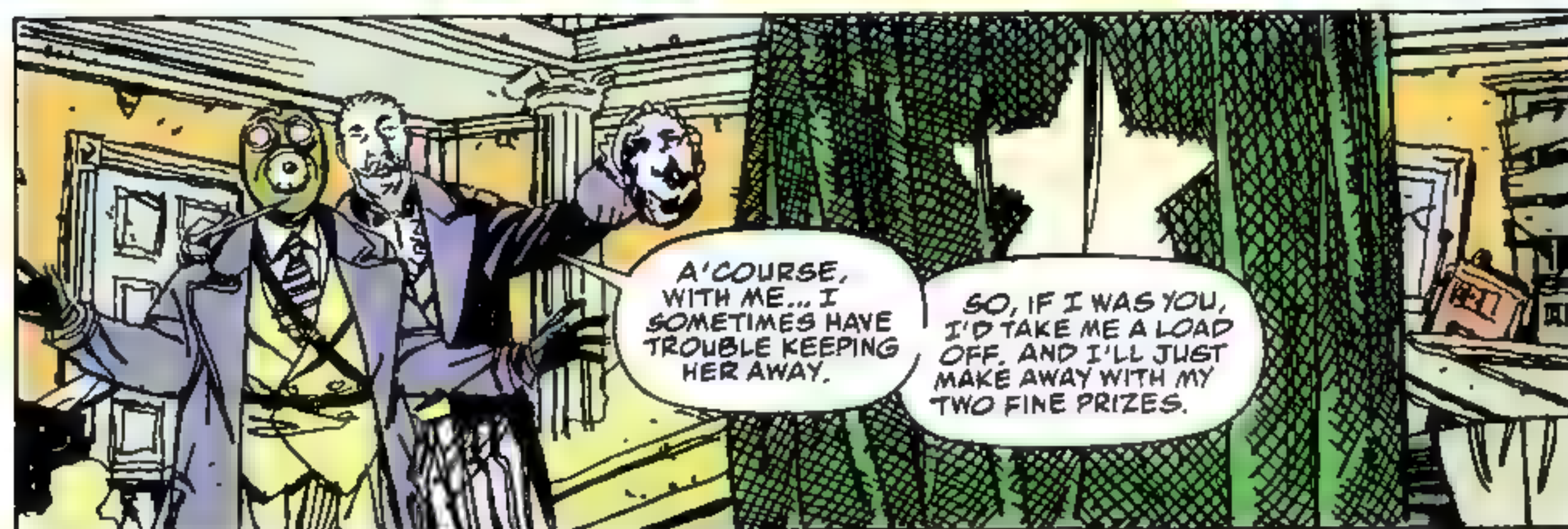
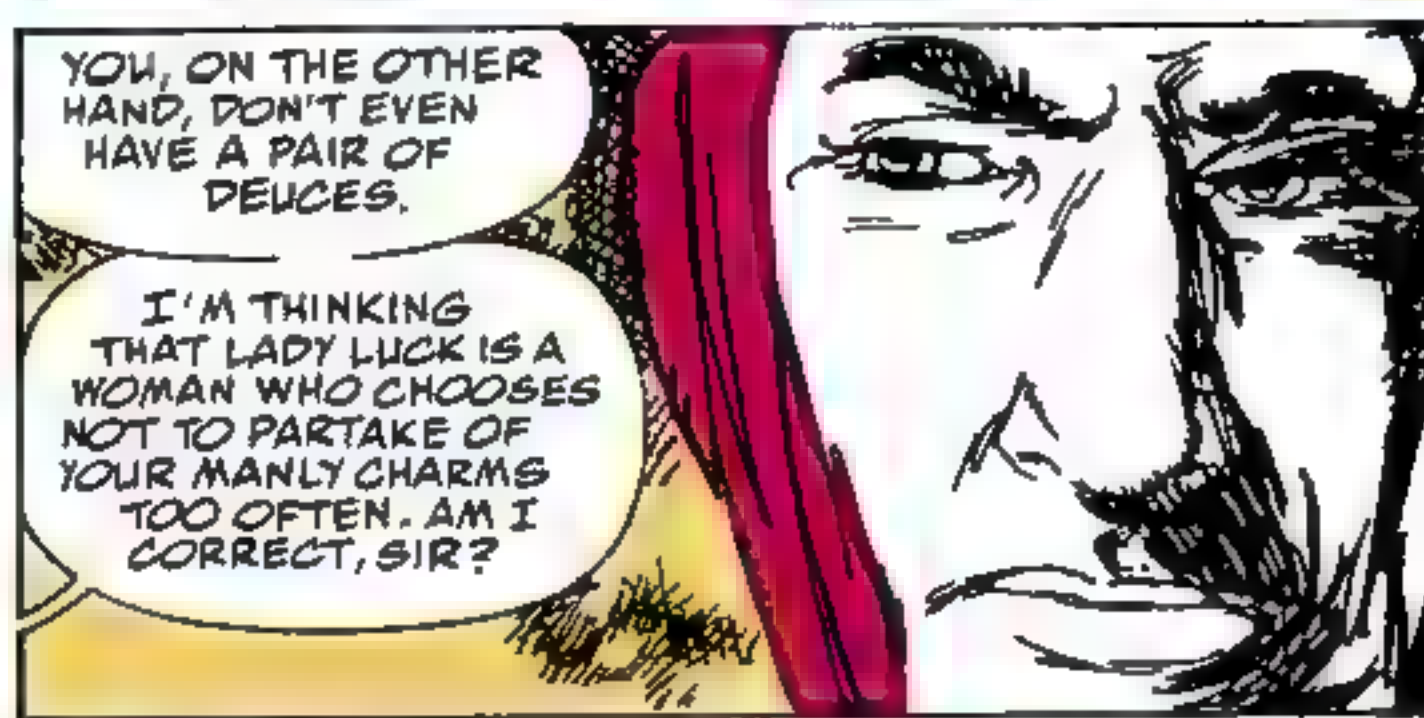
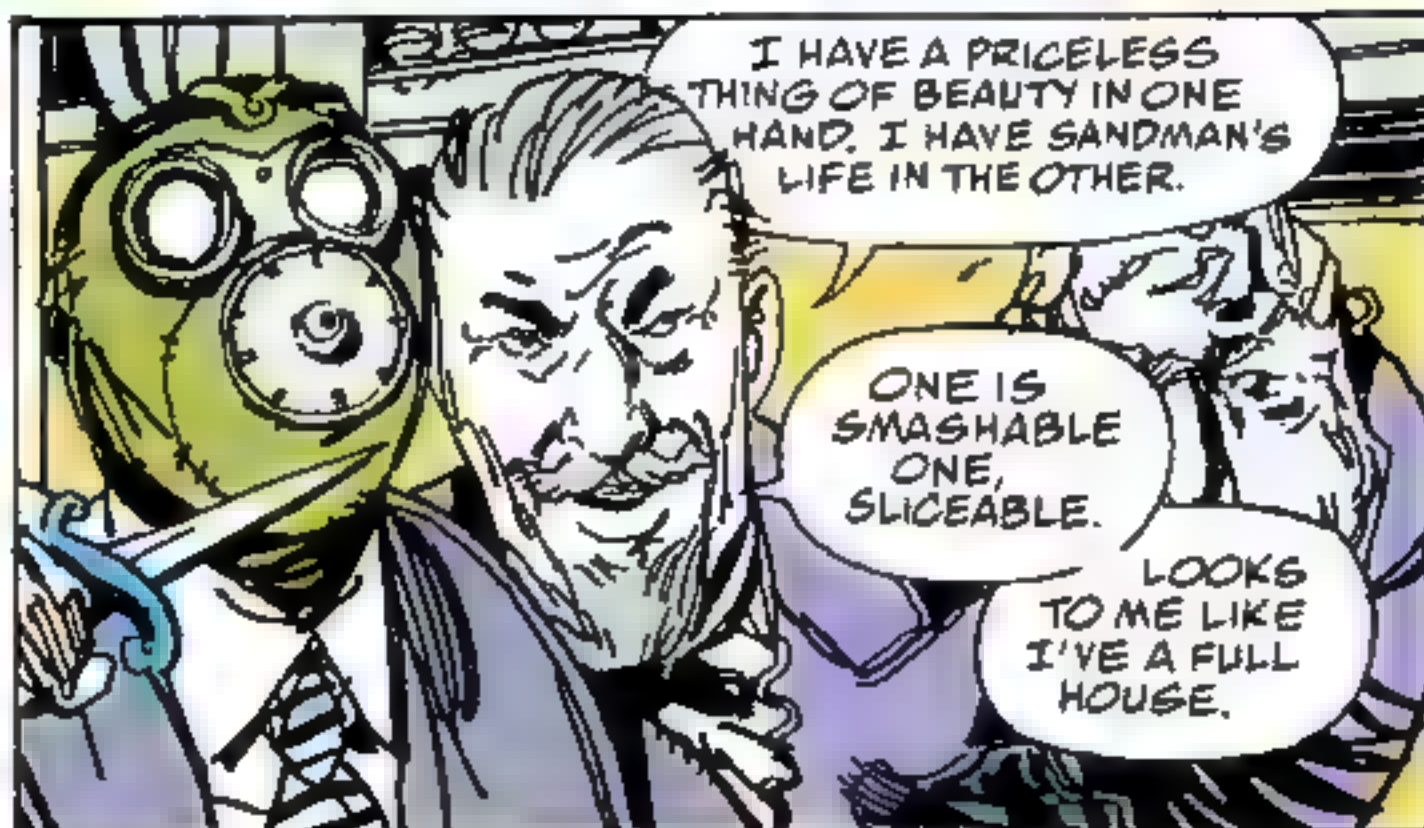
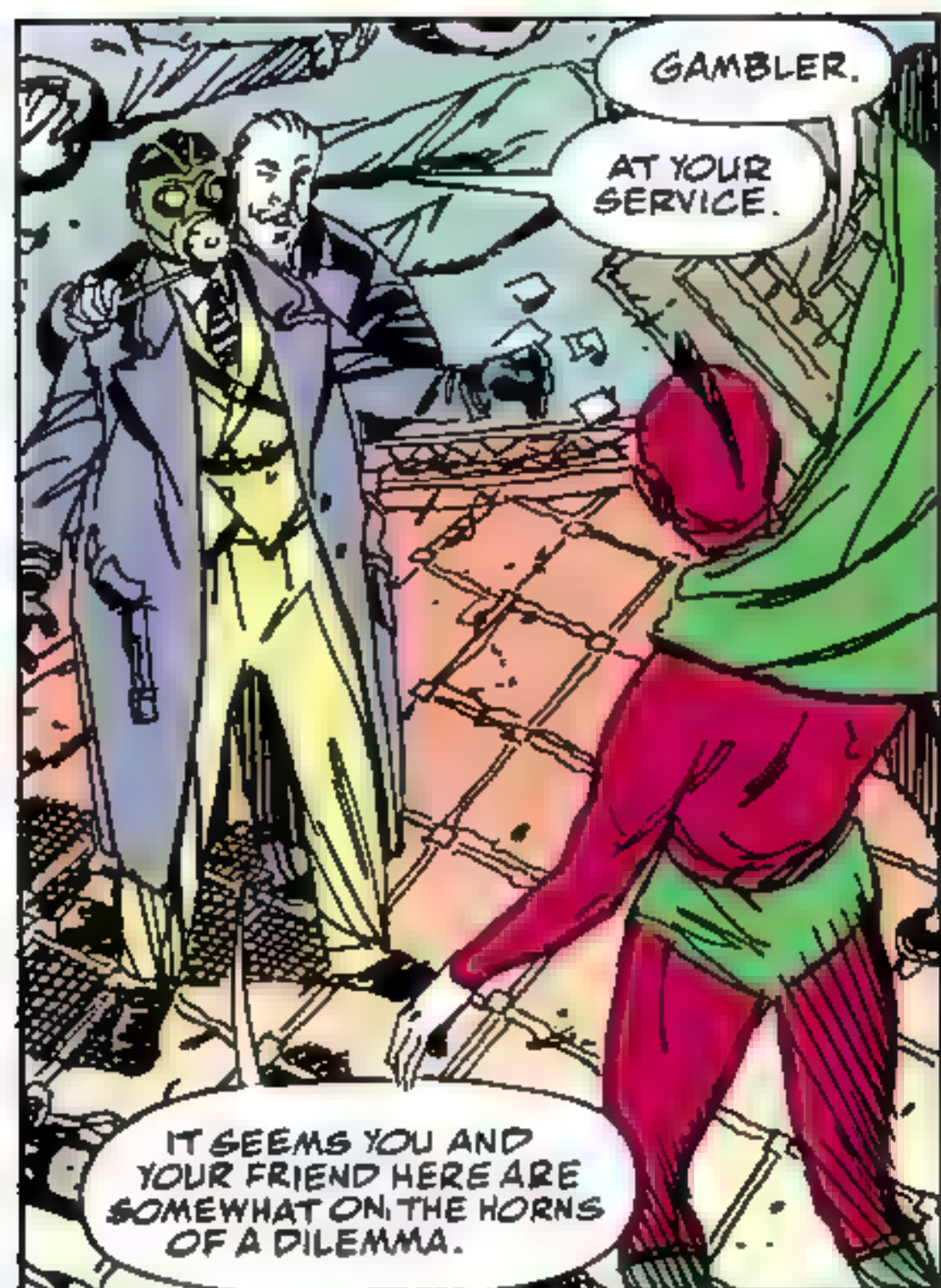
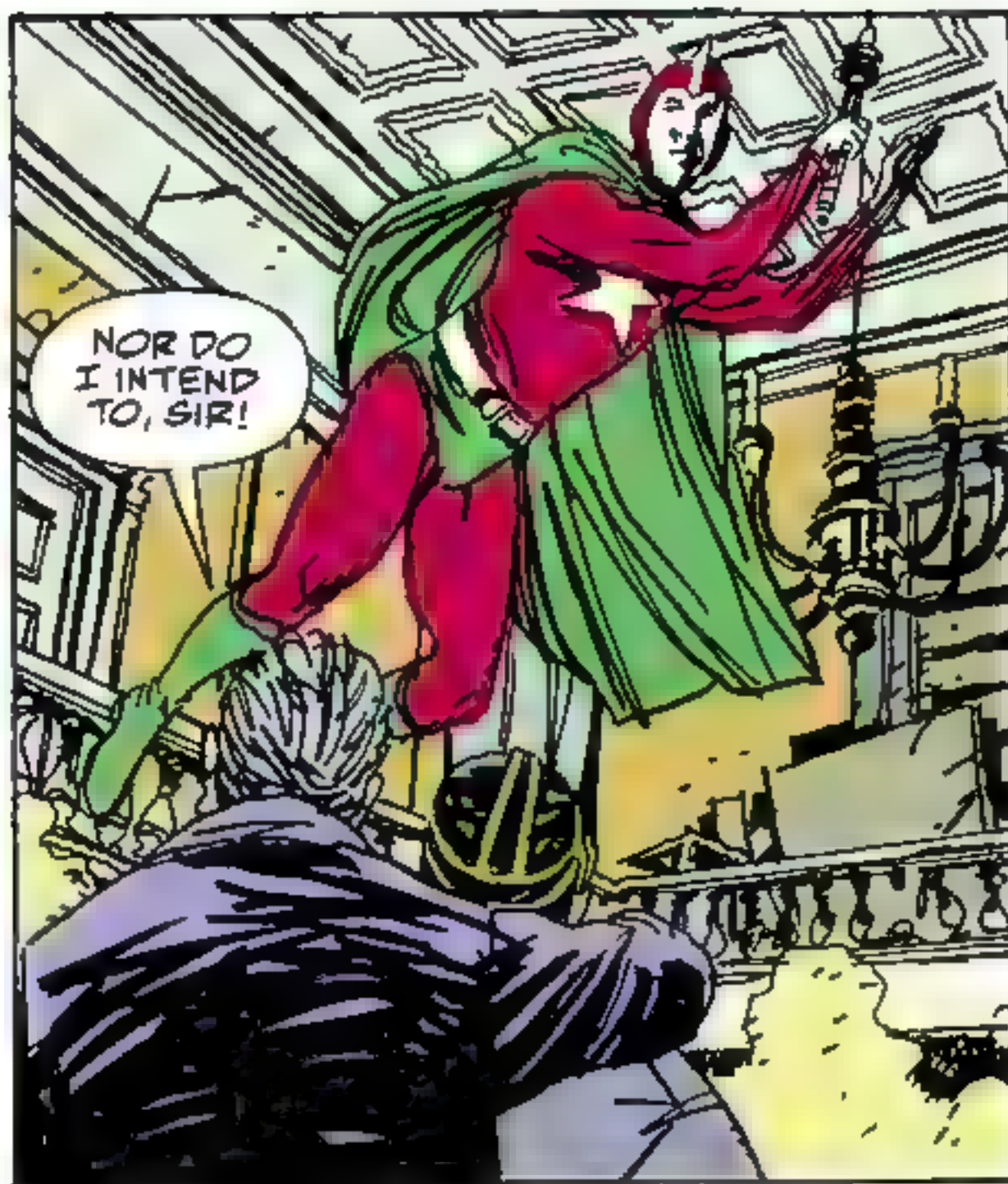
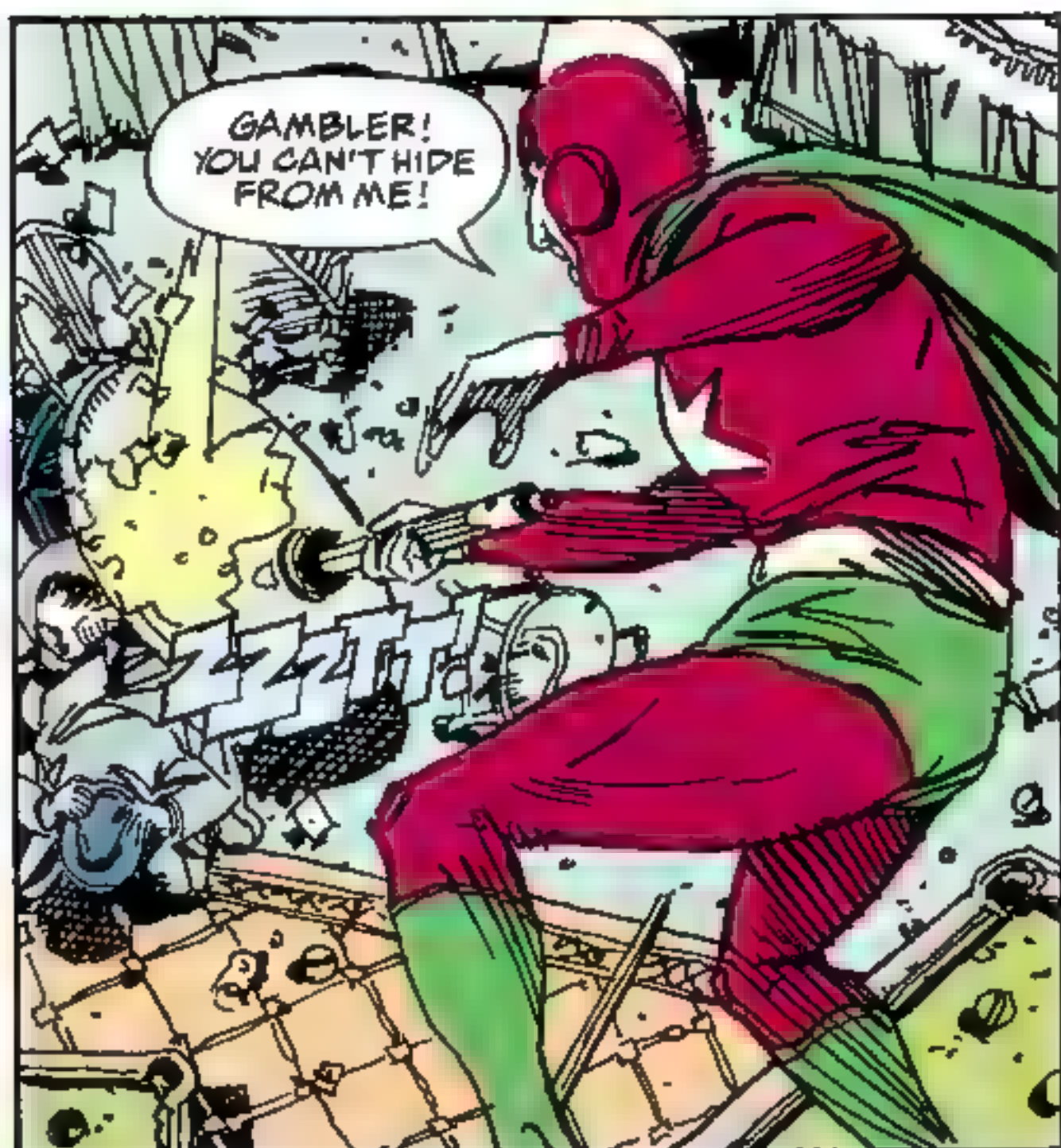
MY
FRIEND.

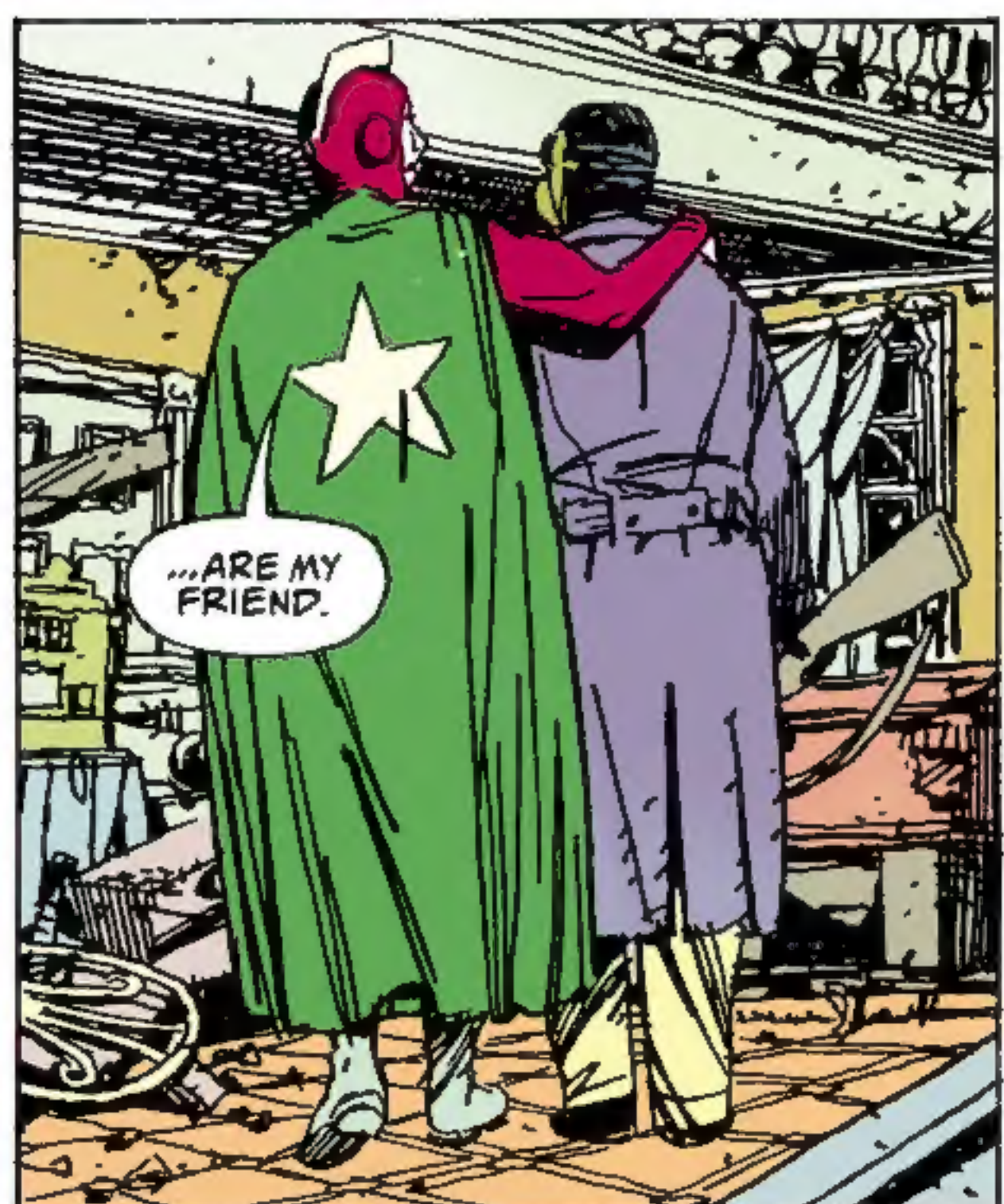












I was... then--

*I did what
had to be*

*And Ted. He did
what he did.*

Then.

*A friend needed
me. I was there.*

*And he was there
when I needed him.*

*It seems I should recall
what I said to young Jack.
Be true to those words.*

*Life should be
measured by quality.*

And so...

*...If this must be the
last thing I do...*

...I die content.



**TO BE
CONCLUDED.**

Deadman Wade

"THIS IS WHAT
AWESOME
LOOKS LIKE".

DCP